

BIRD DE, STORY

11

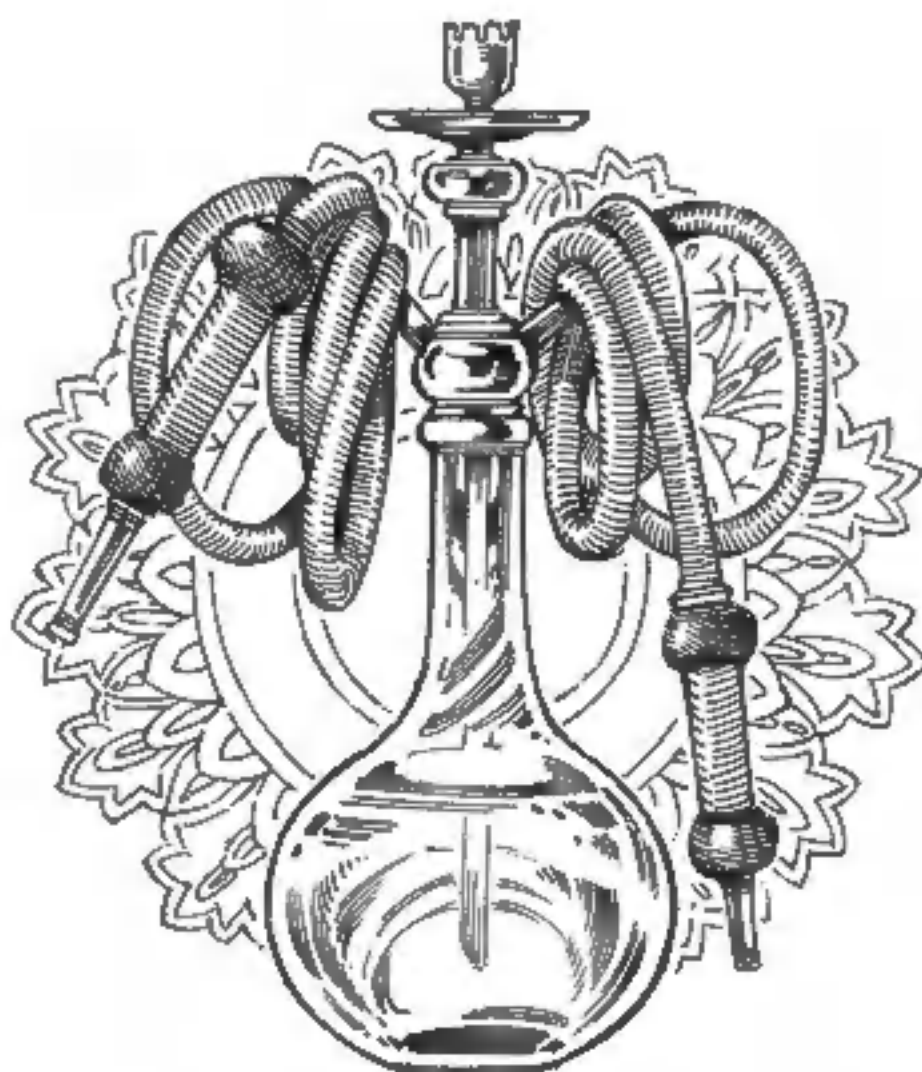
Kaoru
Mori



BRIDE'S STORY

11

Kaoru
Mori



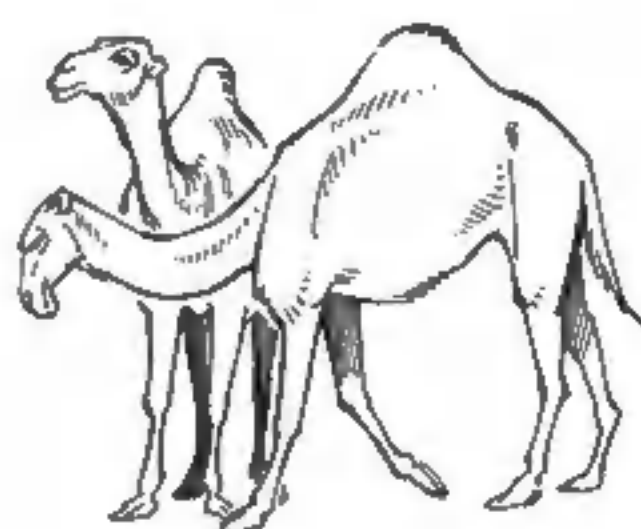
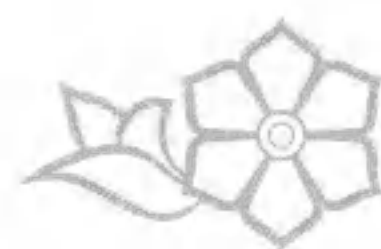


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◆
CHAPTER 70
SONG OF
MIDWINTER
◆

THE MORNINGS
AND EVENINGS
HAVE STARTED
TO GET COLD.

AS THE
YEAR TURNS
TOWARD
WINTER, IT
IS TIME TO
SET OUT
THE HEATED
TABLE.



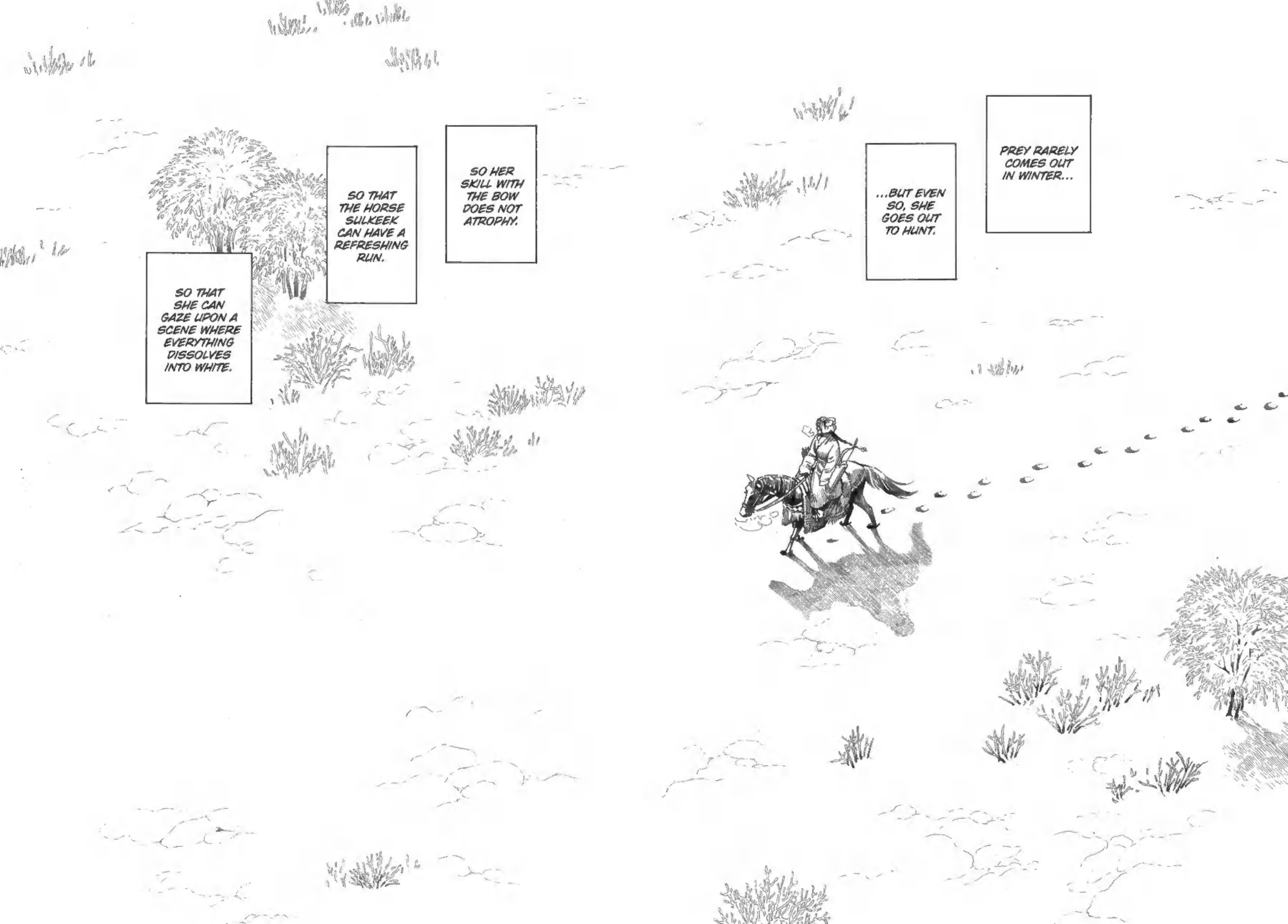


THE VERY
FIRST
SNOWFALL.

AND
WITHOUT
ARRANGING
TO DO SO,
EVERYONE
SEEMS TO
GATHER
THERE.

WITH ITS
OPEN FLAME,
THE KITCHEN
IS THE
WARMEST
PLACE IN THE
HOUSE.





SO THAT
SHE CAN
GAZE UPON A
SCENE WHERE
EVERYTHING
DISSOLVES
INTO WHITE.

SO THAT
THE HORSE
SULKEEK
CAN HAVE A
REFRESHING
RUN.

SO HER
SKILL WITH
THE BOW
DOES NOT
ATROPHY.

...BUT EVEN
SO, SHE
GOES OUT
TO HUNT.

PREY RARELY
COMES OUT
IN WINTER...



"THIS CAT
IS JUST SO
NAUGHTY,"
PARIYA
SAYS WITH
A SMILE.

SHE
GOES
TO VISIT
PARIYA.



NOT
WASTING THE
OPPORTUNITY,
THEY ALLOW IT
TO PERCH ON
HER ARM.

...SO
YUSUF
BRINGS
HER
ALONG.

TILEKE
WON'T REST
UNTIL SHE
SEES AN
EAGLE...



*SHE LISTENS
TO KARLUK'S
STORIES OF
FALCONRY.*





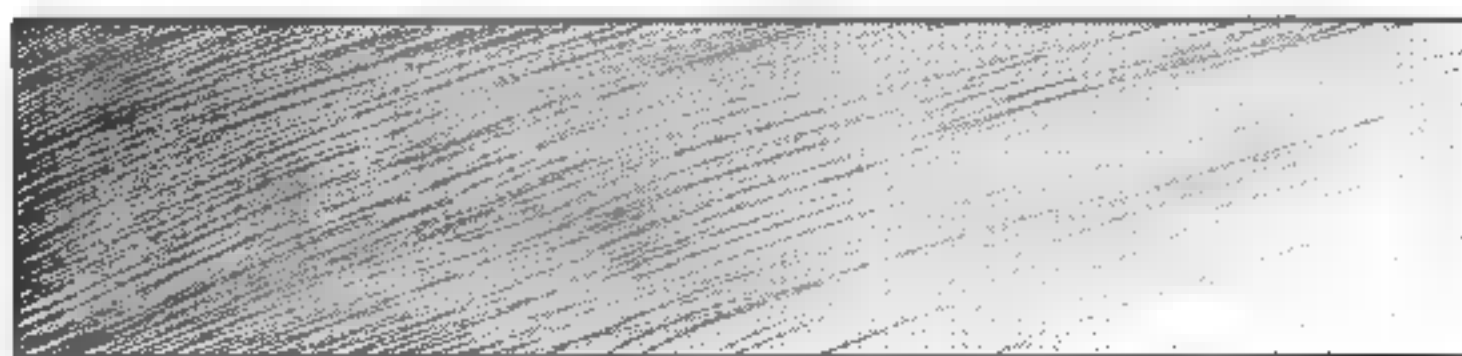
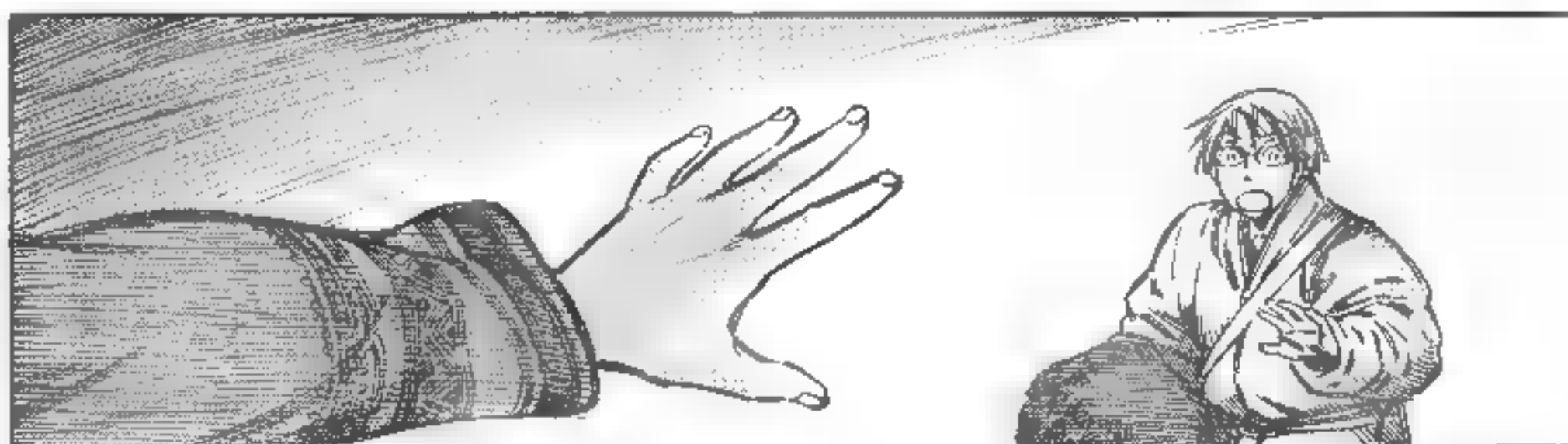
THE
SUN RISES
ON THE
SNOWBOUND
PLAINS.

THE YOUNGER
CHILDREN
CLAMOR TO
BE ALLOWED
TO GO TOO.

TILEKE IS
FILLED WITH
EXCITEMENT
AS SHE TELLS
STORIES OF
SEEING THE
EAGLE.

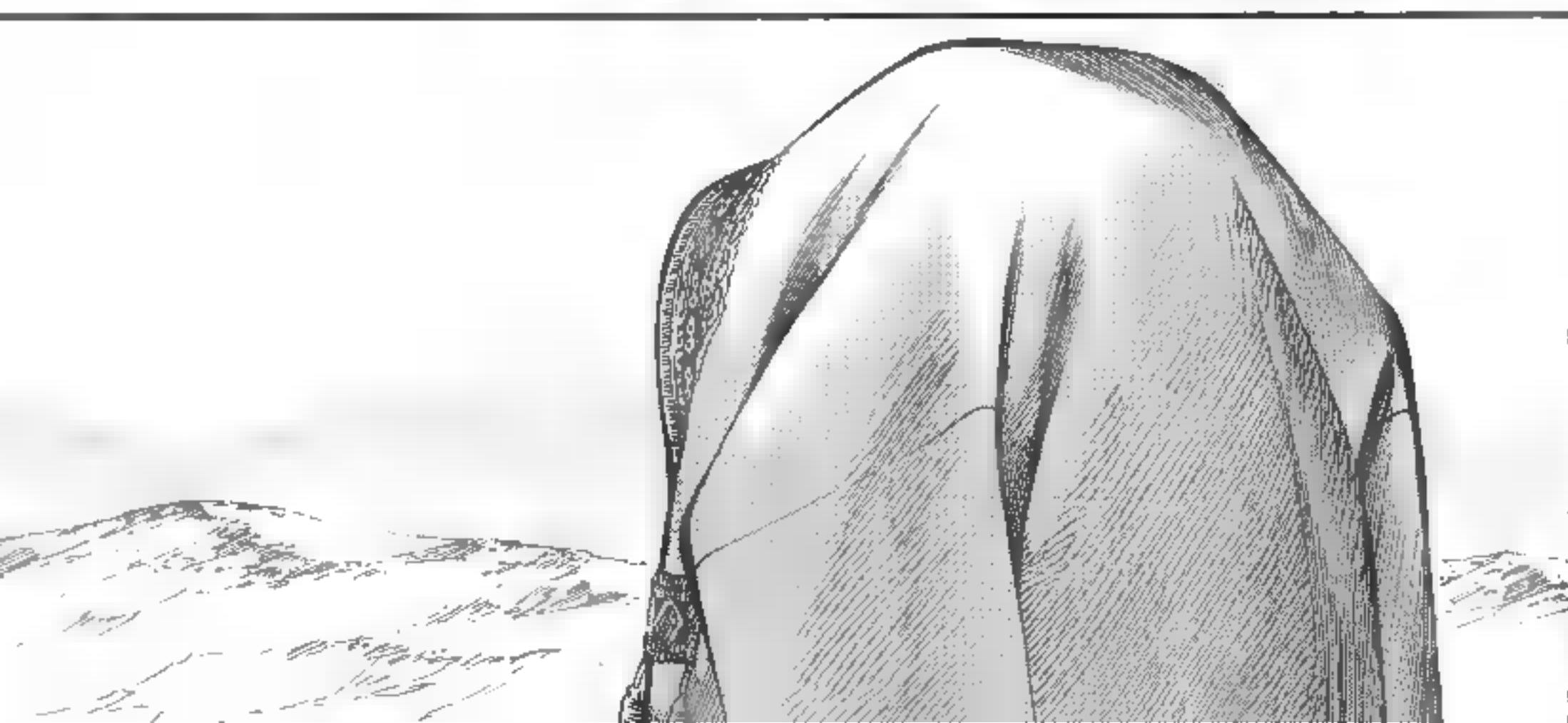
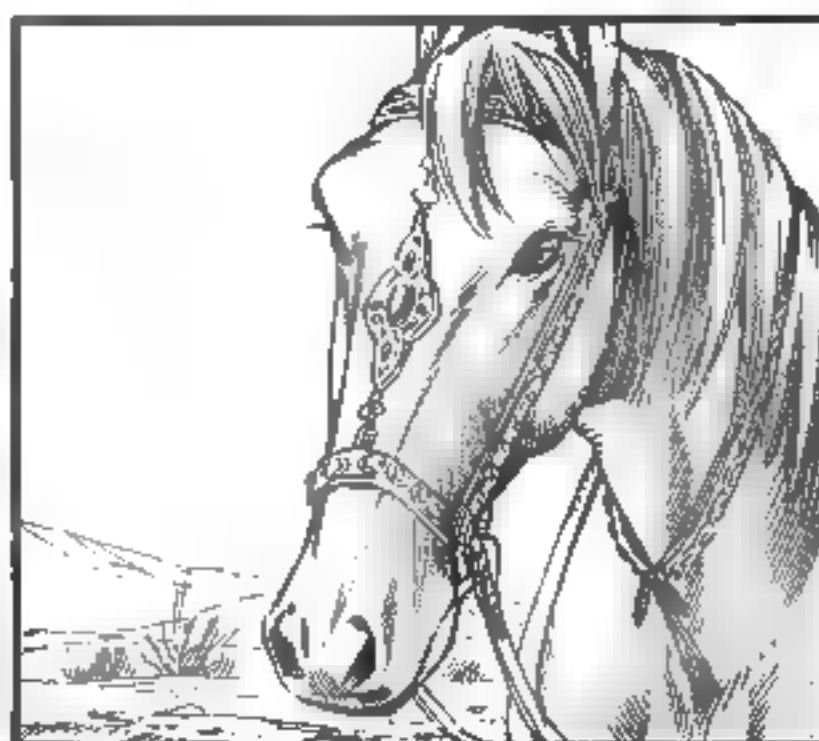
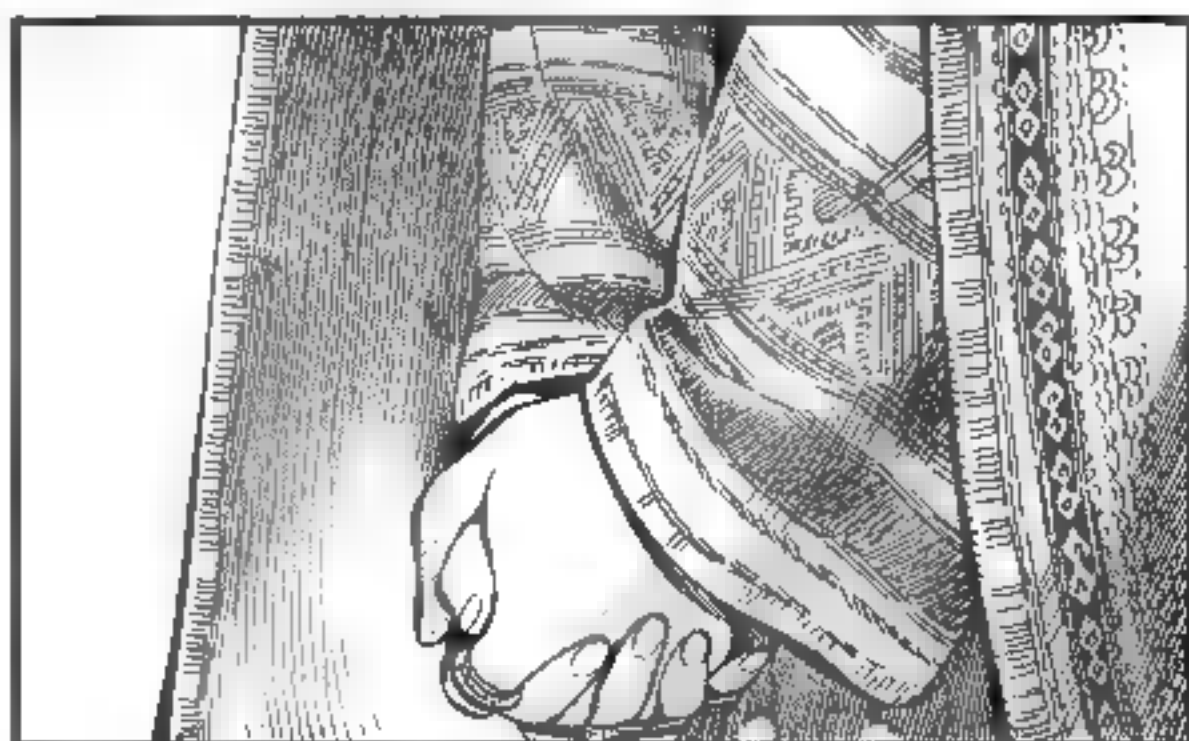


IT ISN'T A
BAD IDEA.
ONCE IT'S
WARM, IT
WOULD BE
NICE IF THEY
ALL CAME.





◆
CHAPTER 71
FROM THE
START
◆





I CAN'T DENY
IT WELL MAY
BE THAT I
ADMIRER HIM
FROM THE
START.



...WE
WALKED
ABOUT
THE
MARKET-
PLACE.

AS TWO
WHOSE
HORSES
HAD BEEN
STOLEN...





MAYBE IT
WAS THE
JOY WHEN
REUNITED
WITH
CHUBAR...



YOU'RE
WELCOME
TO STAY
WITH US.

...THAT
CAUSED THE
INVITATION
TO SLIP
FROM MY
LIPS.



...OR THE
THOUGHT OF
MY LONELY
MOTHER
ALONE AT
HOME...



...BUT SEEING
MOTHER ABLE TO
SHOW A GUEST
HOSPITALITY
GAVE ME JOY
AS WELL.

IT MAY
HAVE BEEN
ONLY FOR
A SHORT
TIME...



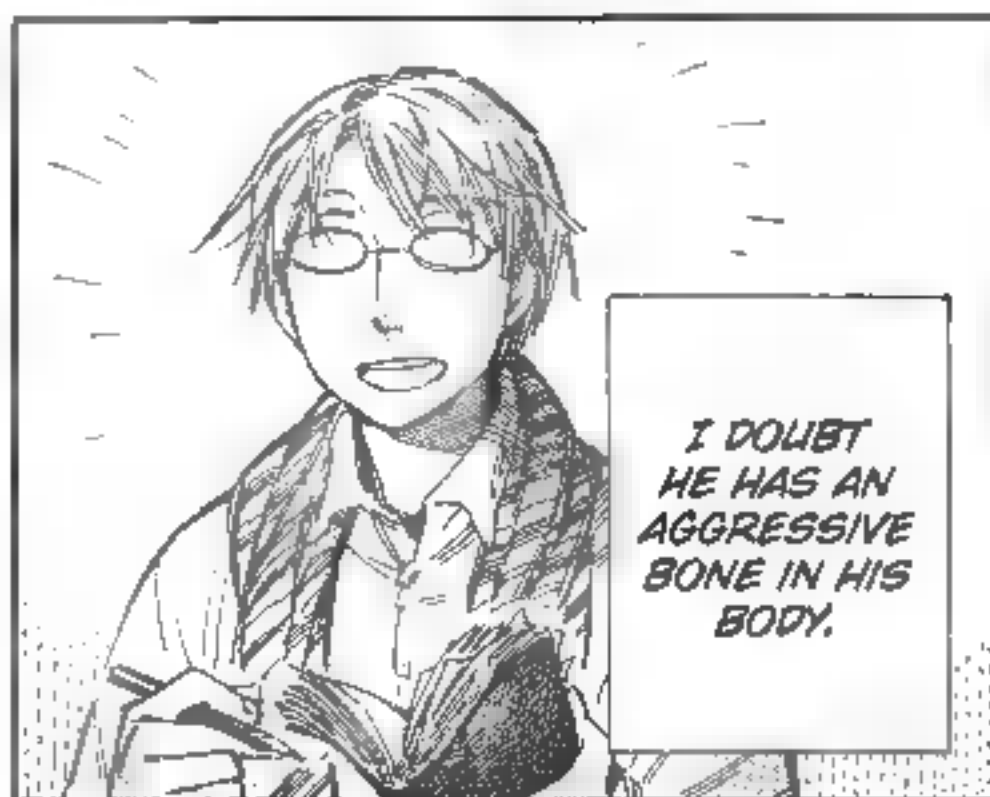
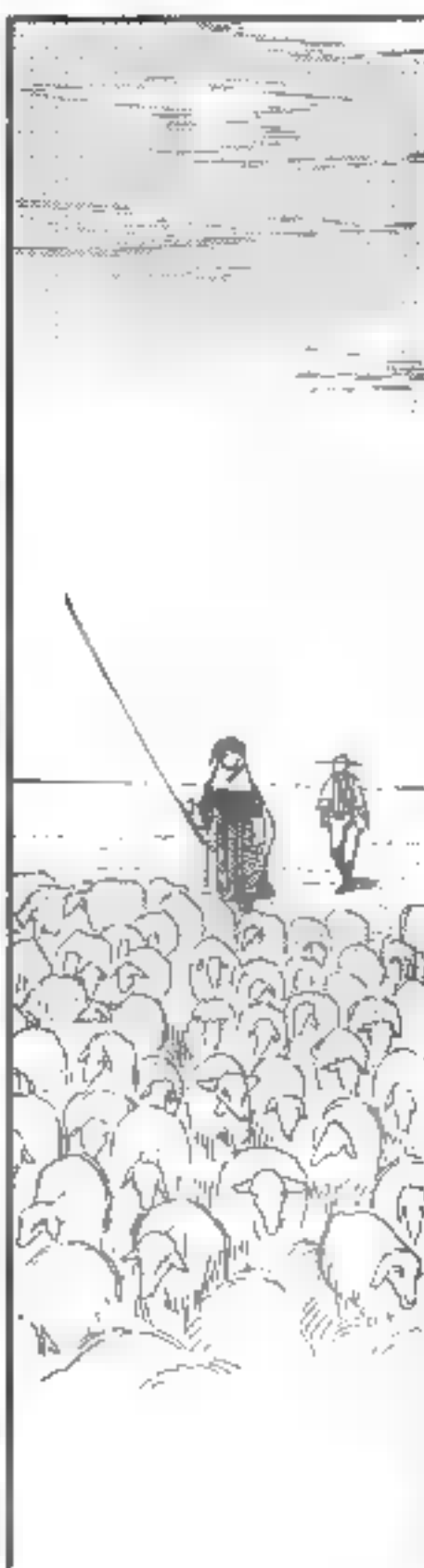


I MAY HAVE
ADMIRER HIM
RIGHT FROM
THE START.



WAS IT
REALLY FOR
MOTHER'S
SAKE THAT
I TRIED
TO STOP
HIM FROM
LEAVING?

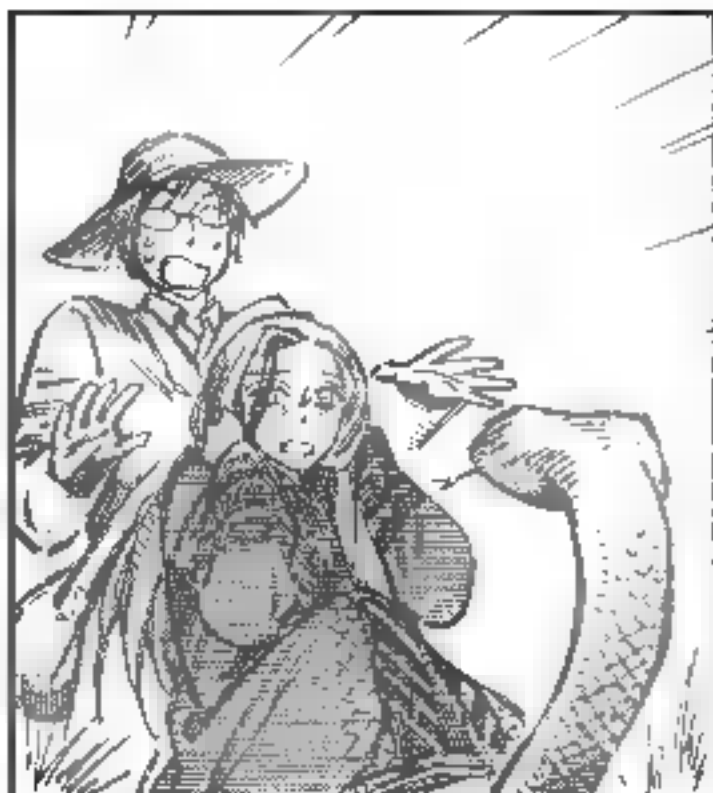
CAN I
CONVINCE
YOU TO STAY
A LITTLE
LONGER?



I DOUBT
HE HAS AN
AGGRESSIVE
BONE IN HIS
BODY.



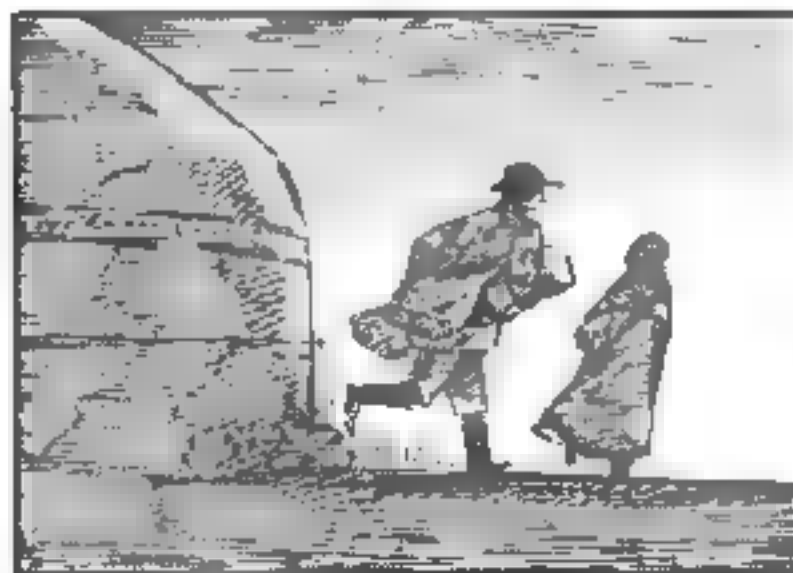
THIS MAY
HAVE BEEN
THE FIRST
TIME I EVER
FELT SO
AT EASE
SPEAKING
TO A MAN.





CHUBAR IS
ME. I AM
CHUBAR.

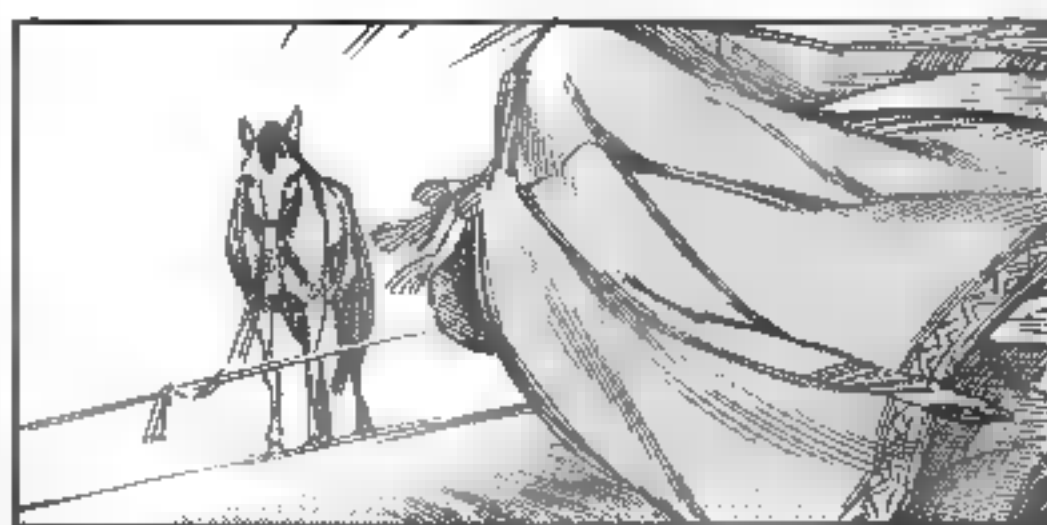
CHUBAR CAN
ACCOMPANY
HIM THAT WILL
DO.



THIS
ENDS IT.

YES.

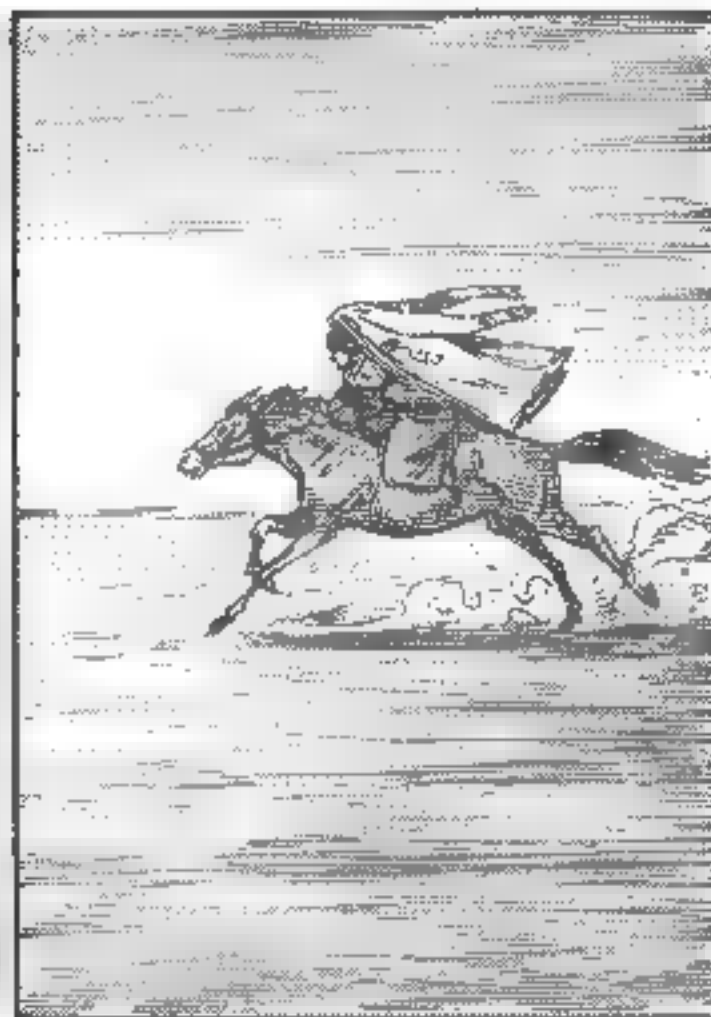






WHEN I
THINK THAT
SOMETHING
MAY HAVE
HAPPENED
TO HIM...

...I LOSE
THE WILL
TO LIVE!



I...
THINK...
THIS IS
LOVE.

THIS IS
LOVE.

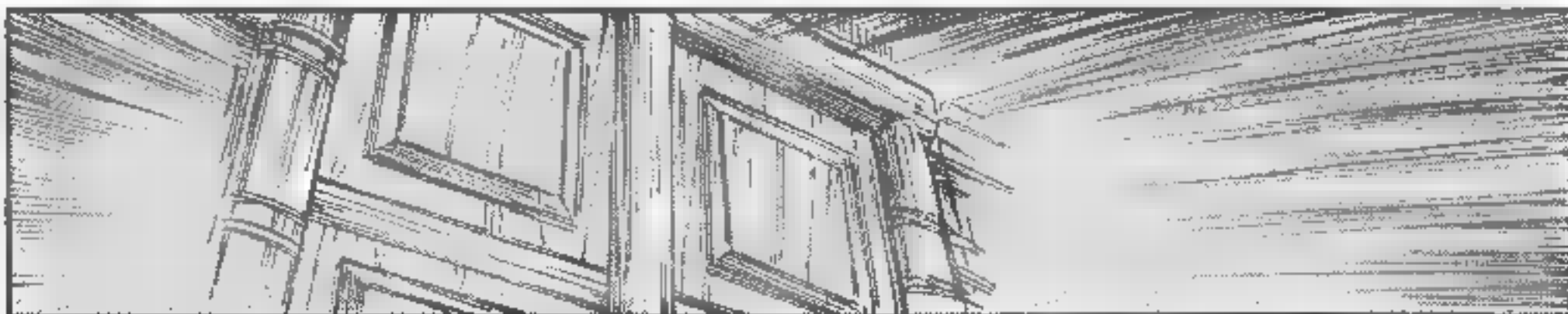


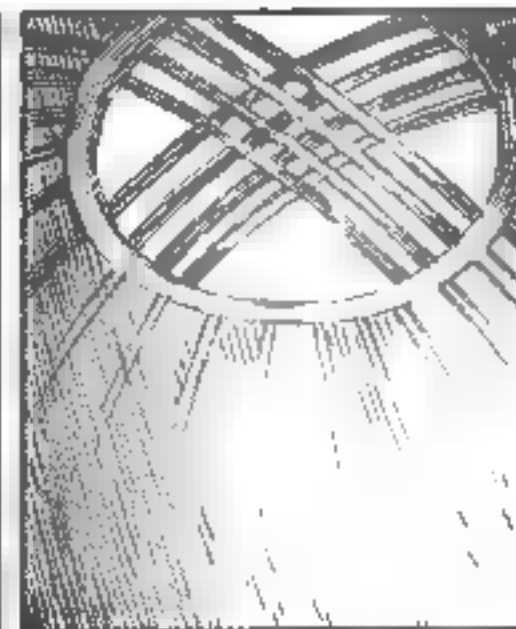
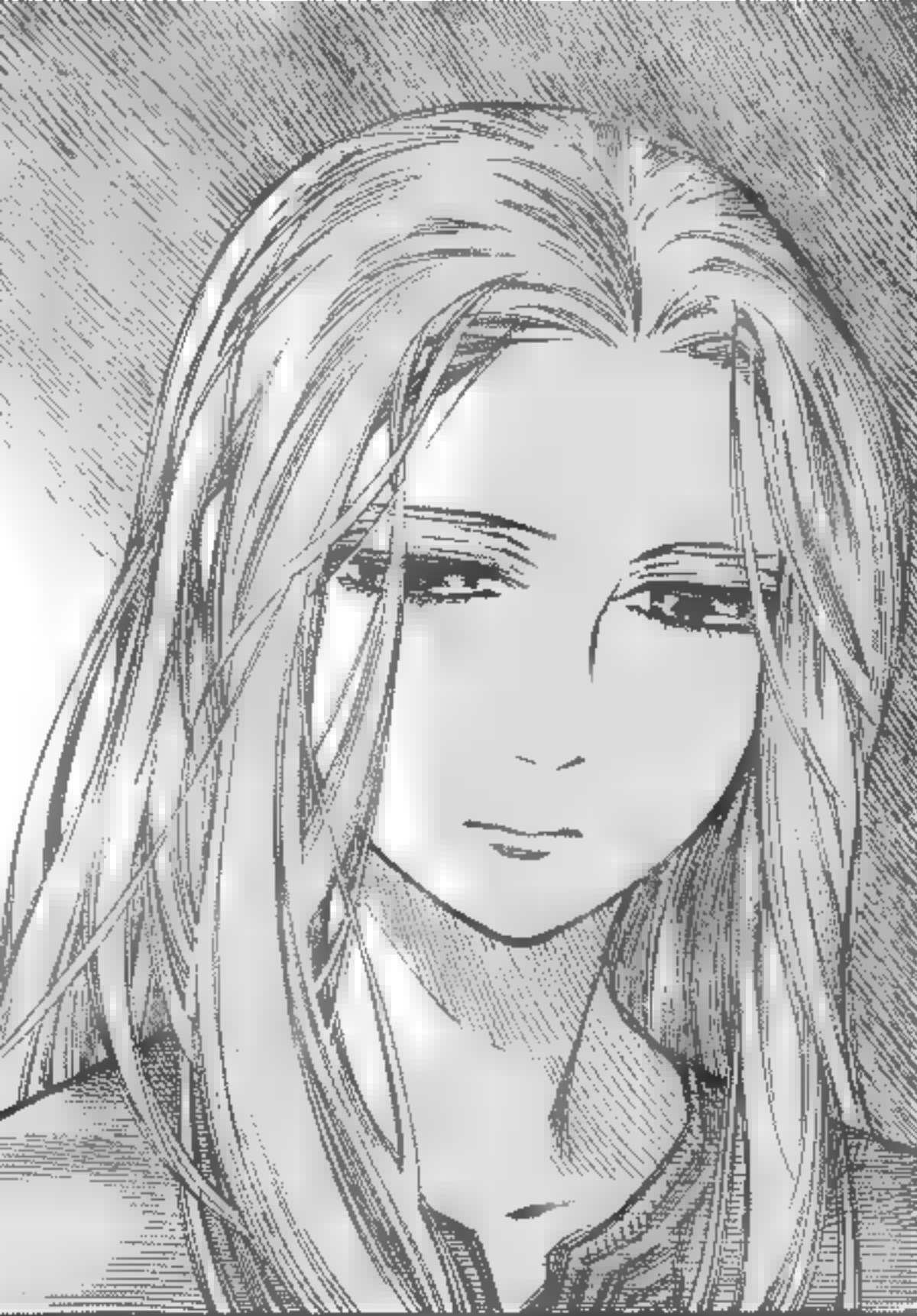
PLEASE!
LET HIM BE
ALIVE.....!



I DON'T
KNOW OF
ANYTHING
ELSE THAT
WOULD
EXPLAIN THE
STRENGTH
OF THESE
FEELINGS.





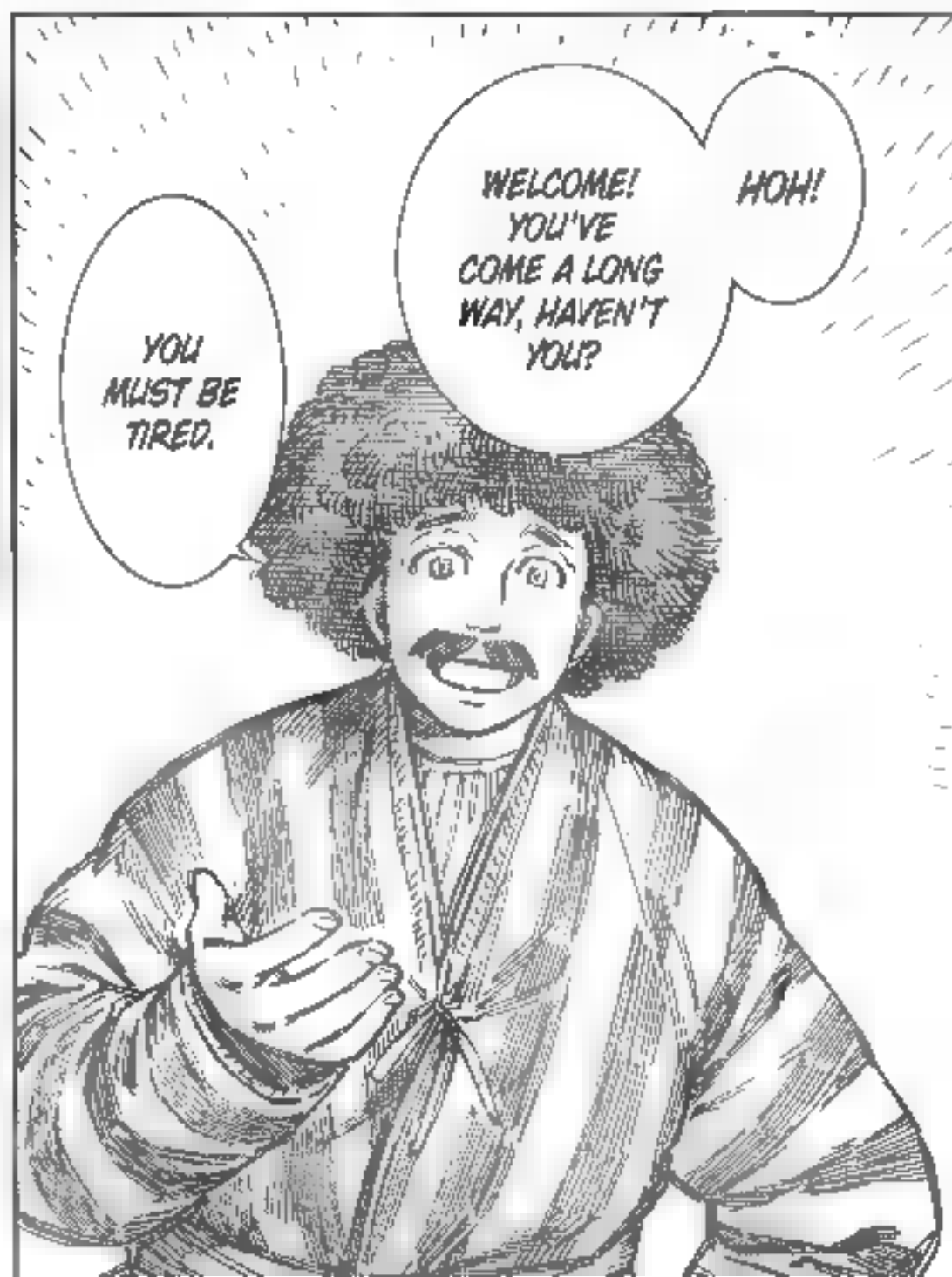




.....I
WILL.

A
THOUGHT
STRUCK
ME. I
WON-
DERED...

...WHAT
HAPPI-
NESS
WAS.



WELCOME!
YOU'VE
COME A LONG
WAY, HAVEN'T
YOU?

HOH!

YOU
MUST BE
TIRED.



LET'S
MAKE
A GOOD
PAIR,
HUH?

...BUT
I'VE BEEN
MARRIED
BEFORE.

I HOPE
YOU'VE BEEN
TOLD...



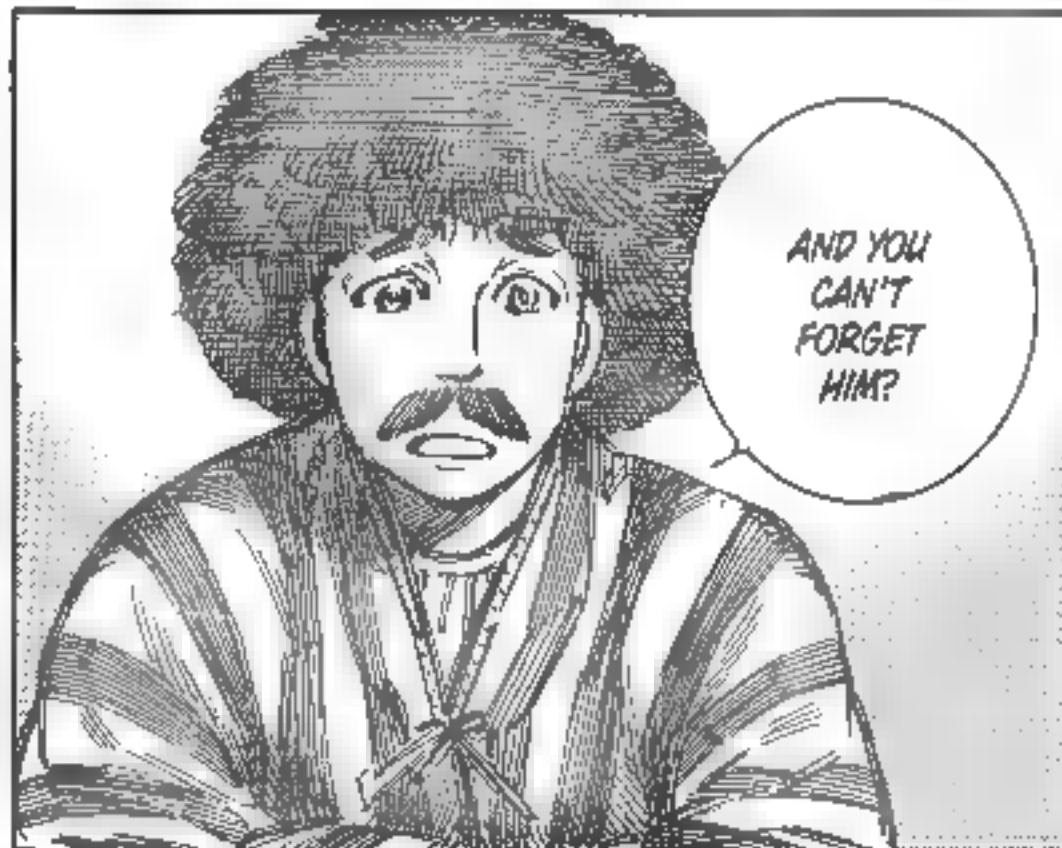


I MISS HIM.

I WANT TO SEE HIM AGAIN, EVEN JUST A GLIMPSE OF HIM.



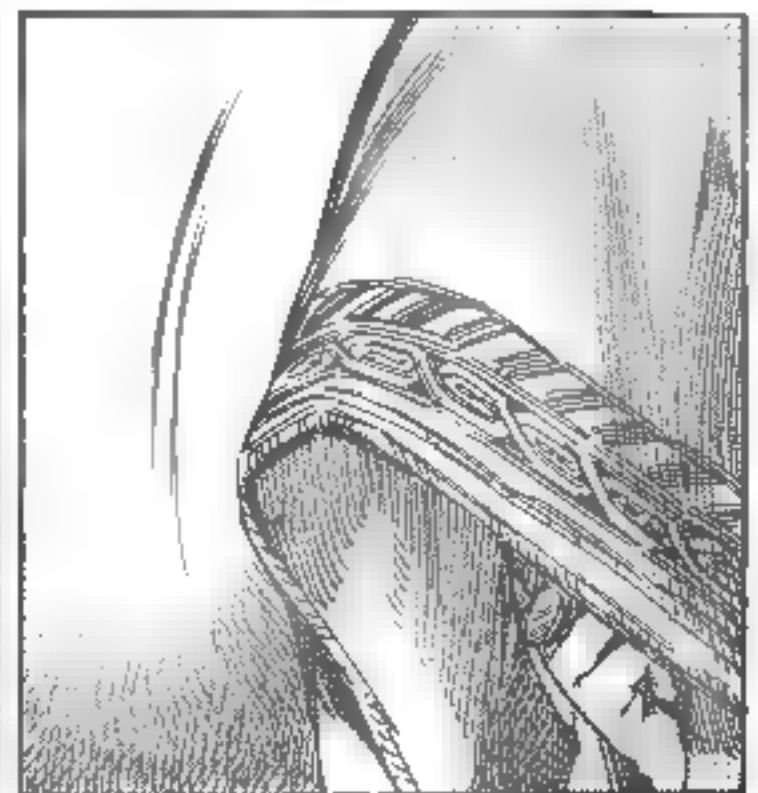
MAYBE I JUST WANTED SOMEONE TO HEAR THEM.



AND YOU CAN'T FORGET HIM?



HOW DO WE HANDLE THIS ONE...



...EVERYONE
WAS SO
HAPPY FOR
US.

...TO
PRAY FOR
A PROS-
PEROUS
MARRIED
LIFE...

WHEN
WE SAID
WE WERE
GOING ON
A PILGRIM-
AGE...



WE'RE NOT
STRANGERS
NOW.

...THAT'D
WEIGH ON
MY MIND
TOO.

IF I WENT
AND LEFT YOU
ALONE...

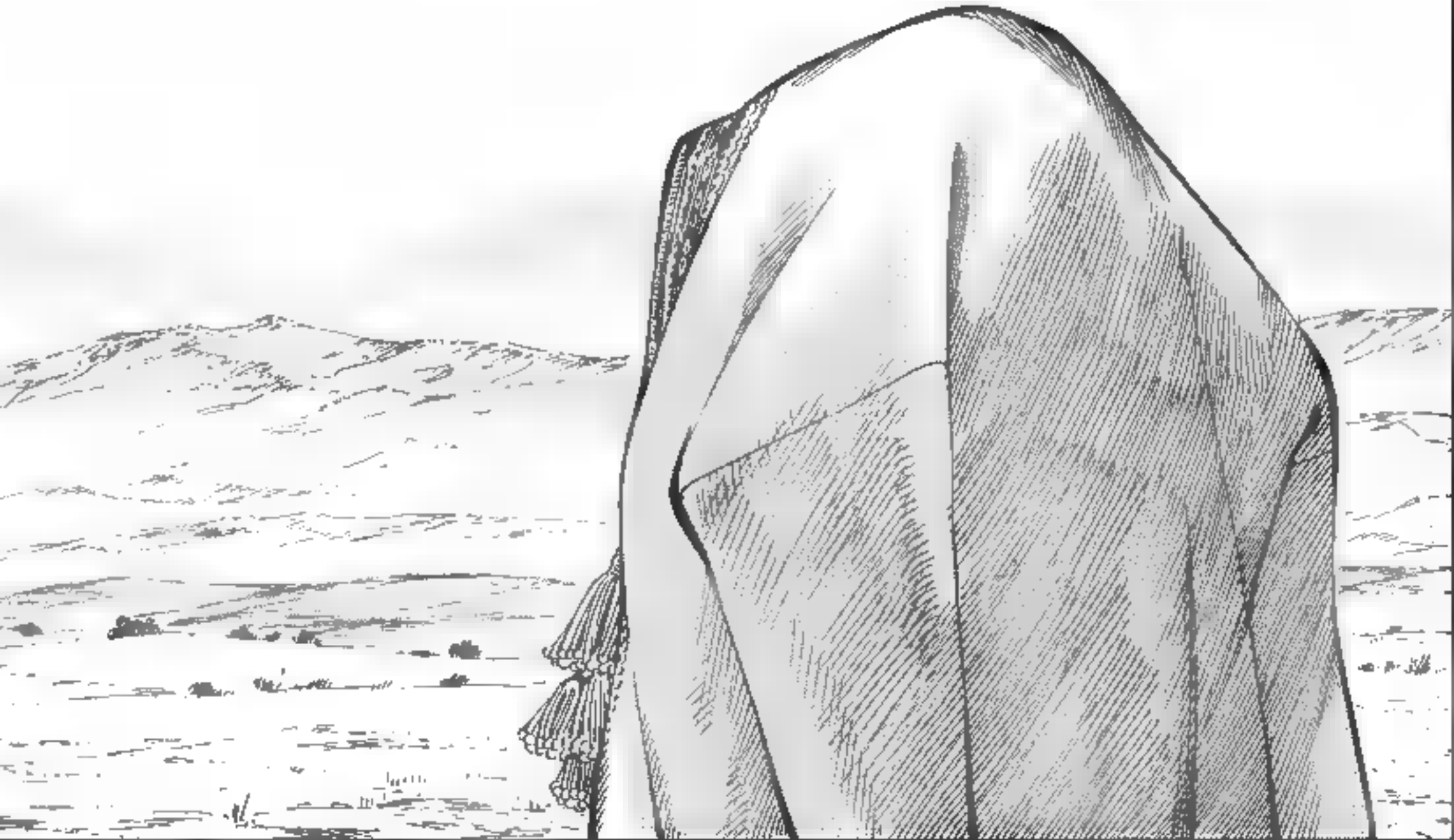
YEAH...
BUT IT'S NO
TROUBLE.

I CAN
CONTINUE
ON MY
OWN FROM
THERE.

AT THE
NEXT TOWN,
I DON'T
MIND...







WHAT
IS THE
MATTER?

WELL, IT
LOOKS LIKE
WE CAN'T
GO ON
ALONE.



IT'S
POSSIBLE
THAT WE'VE
MANAGED TO
GET AHEAD
OF HIM.

I'VE ASKED
AROUND,
AND NO
ONE'S SEEN
ANYONE
LIKE HIM.

WE'RE ALL
HEADED THE
SAME WAY.
THERE'S NO
NEED TO
PANIC.

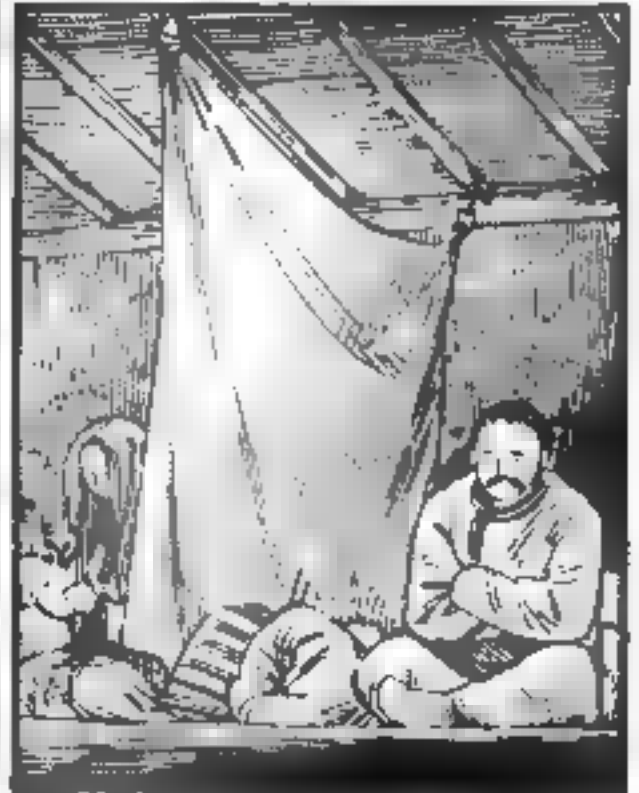
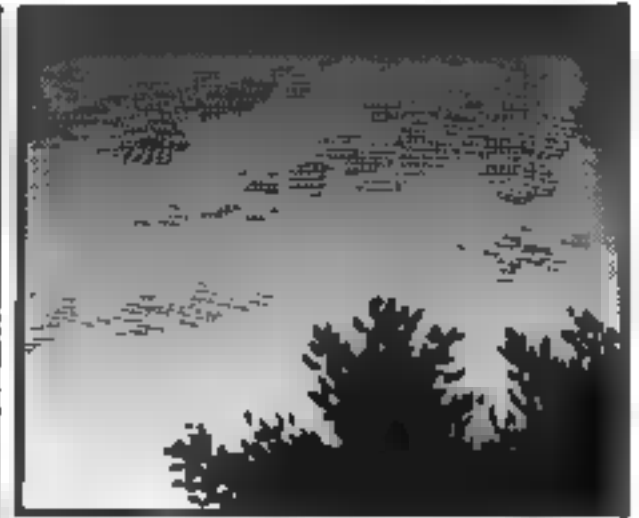
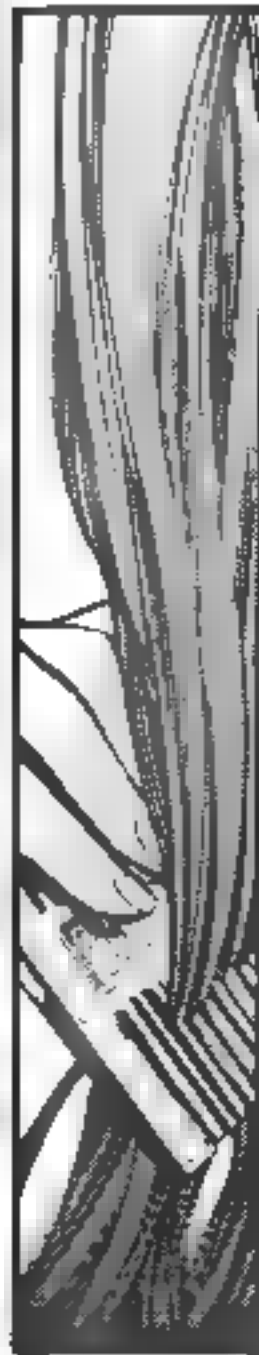
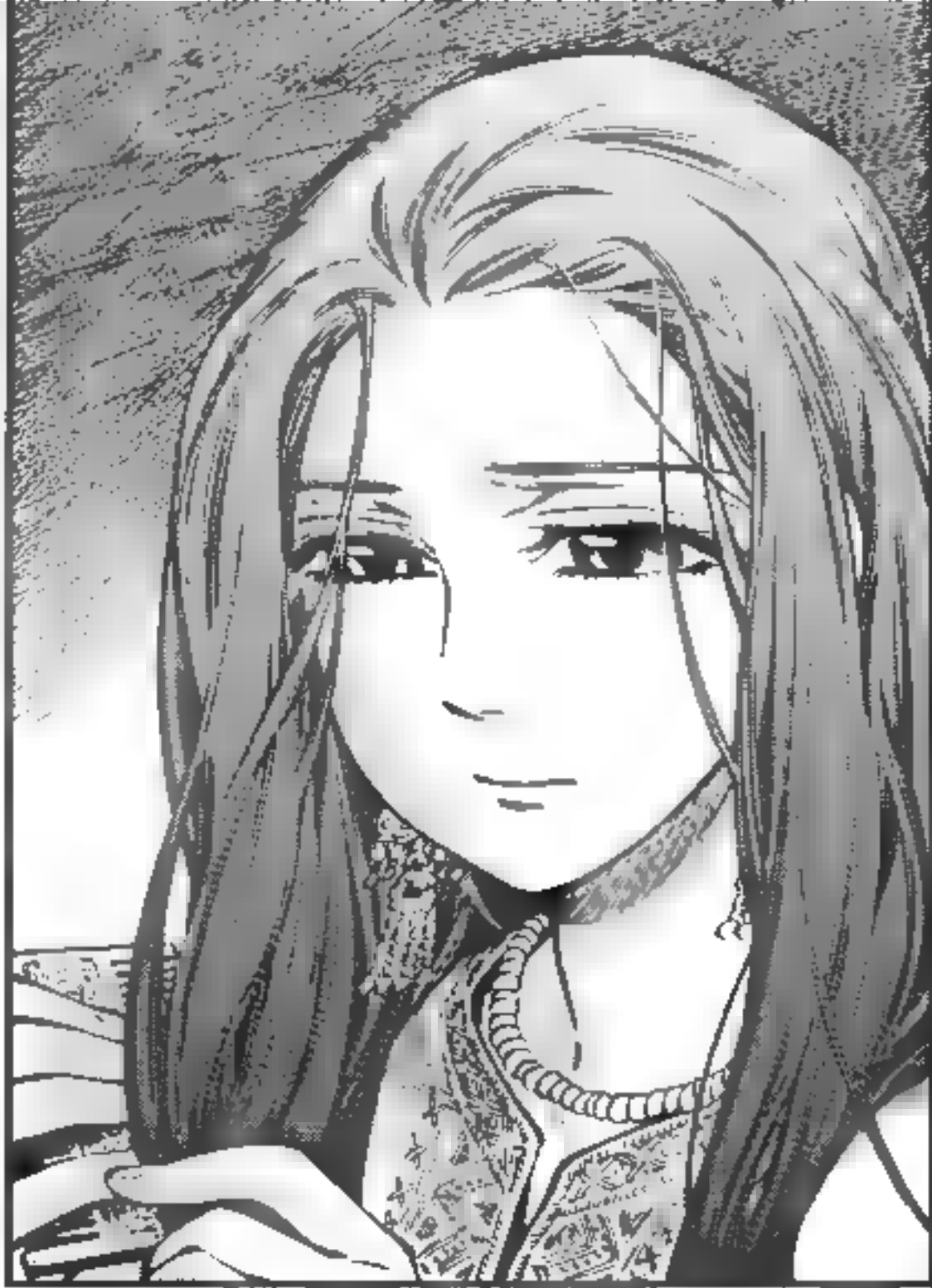


IS
THAT
SO...?



WE NEED
MORE PEOPLE.
THEY SAY WE
NEED THE
NUMBERS OF
A CARAVAN.

SO WE'LL
HAVE TO WAIT
HERE UNTIL
WE HAVE
ENOUGH.



...WHAT
WOULD
YOU DO
IF YOU
NEVER
FOUND
HIM?



...SO IT MAY
BE FAR TOO
SOON TO SAY
THIS, BUT...

WE'RE
NOT
THERE
YET...

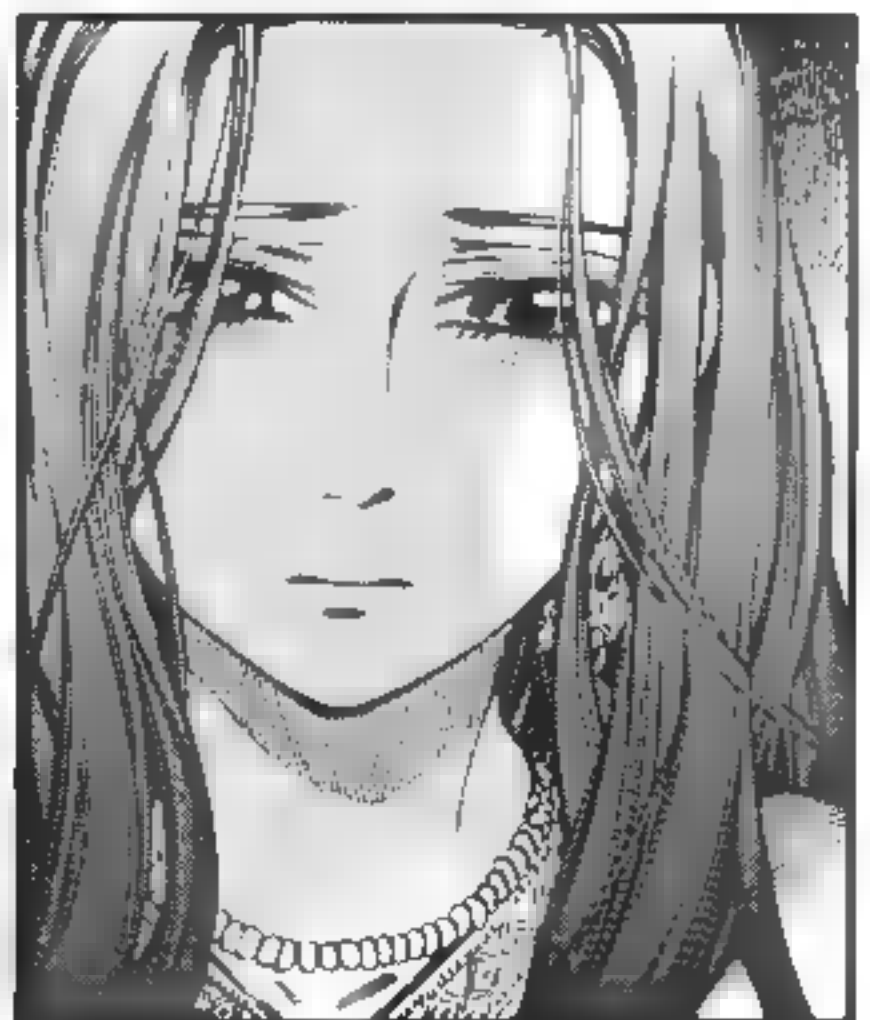


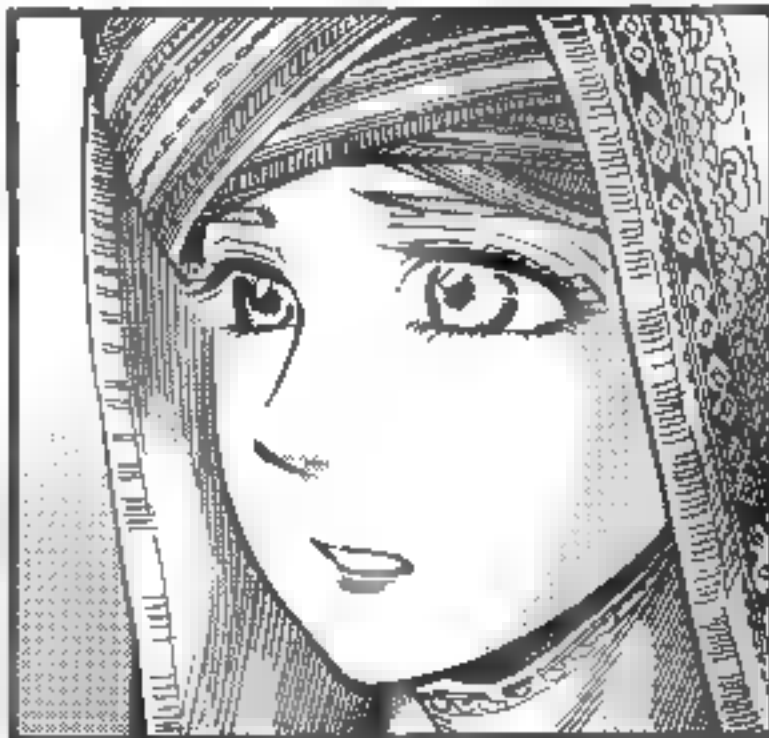
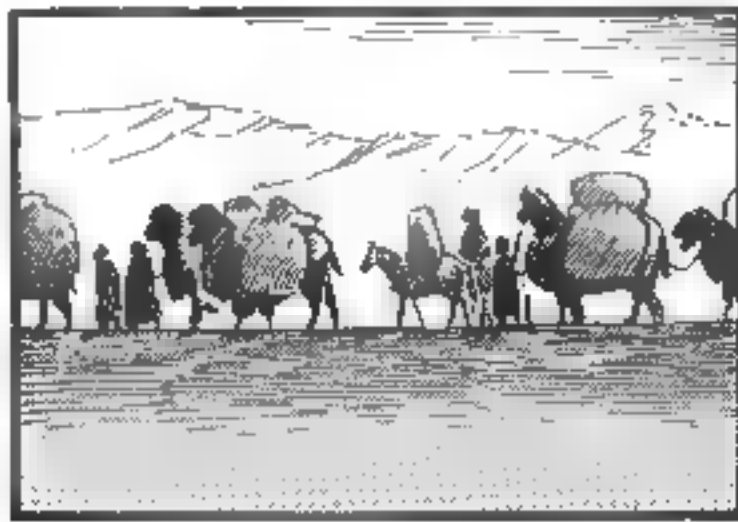
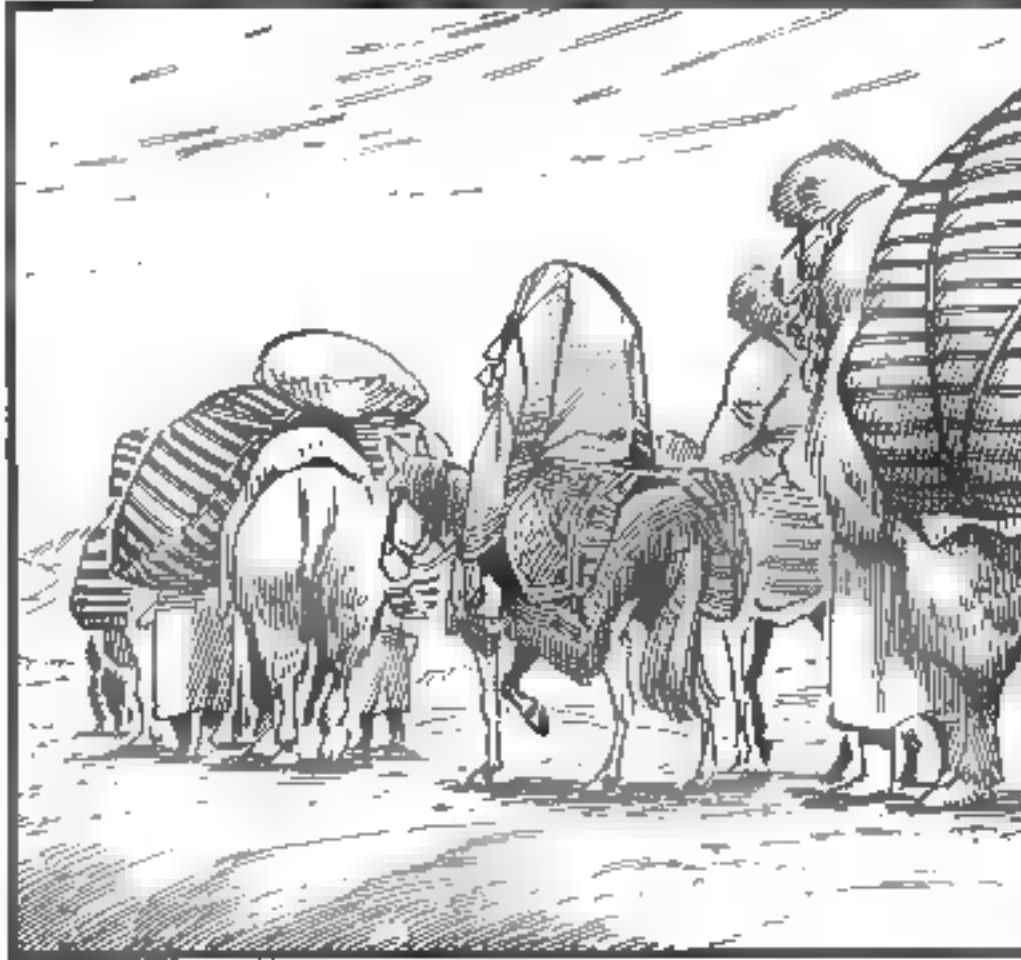
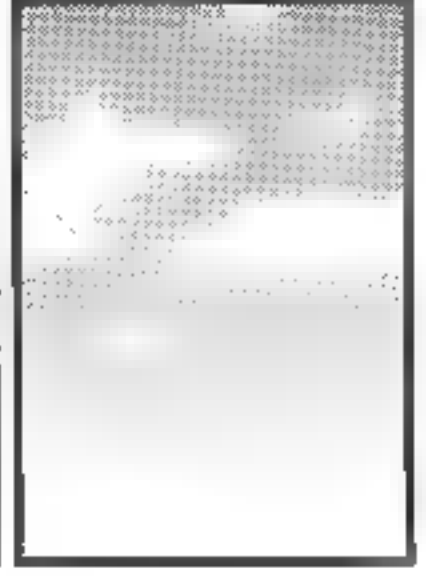
SAY...

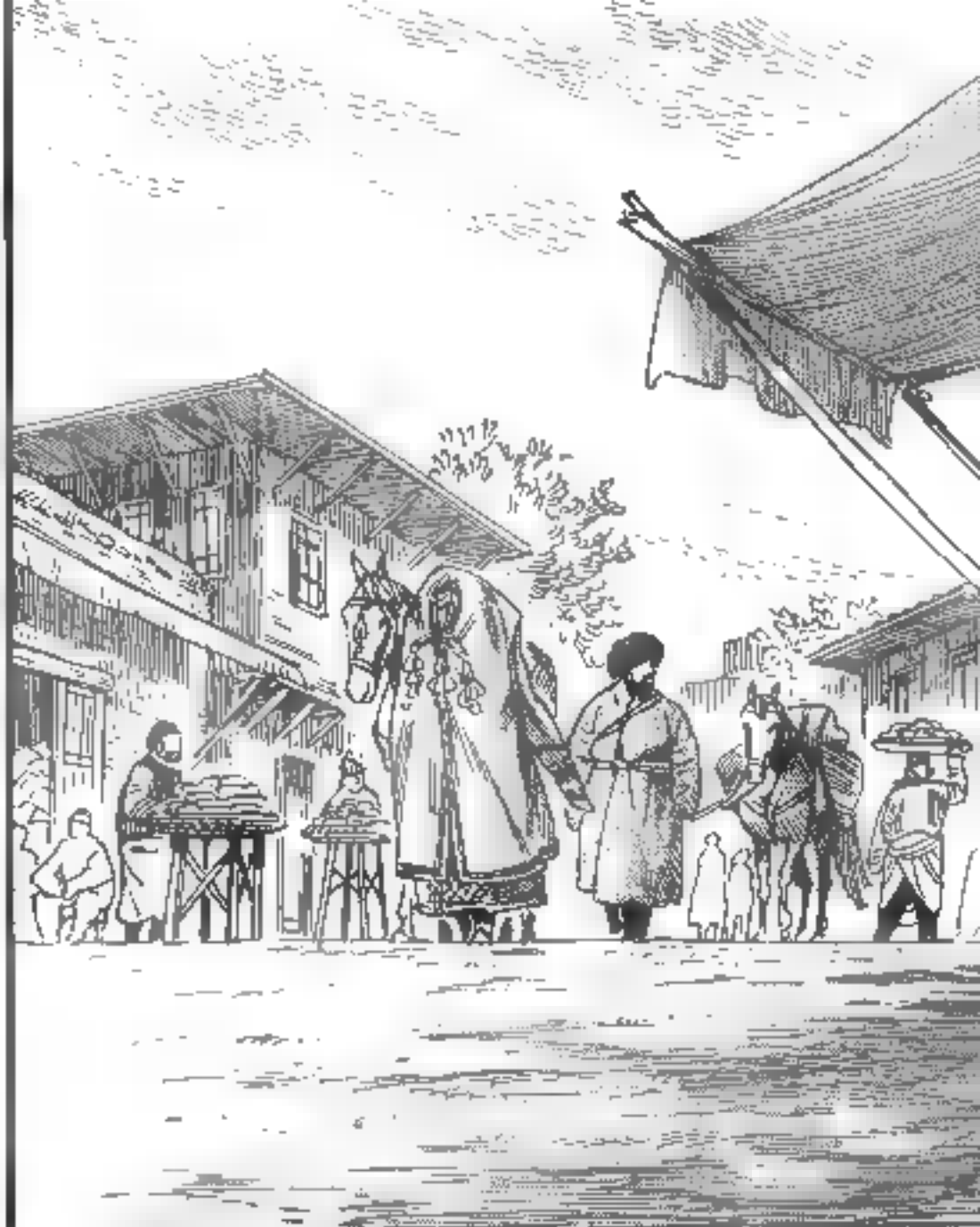
YES?

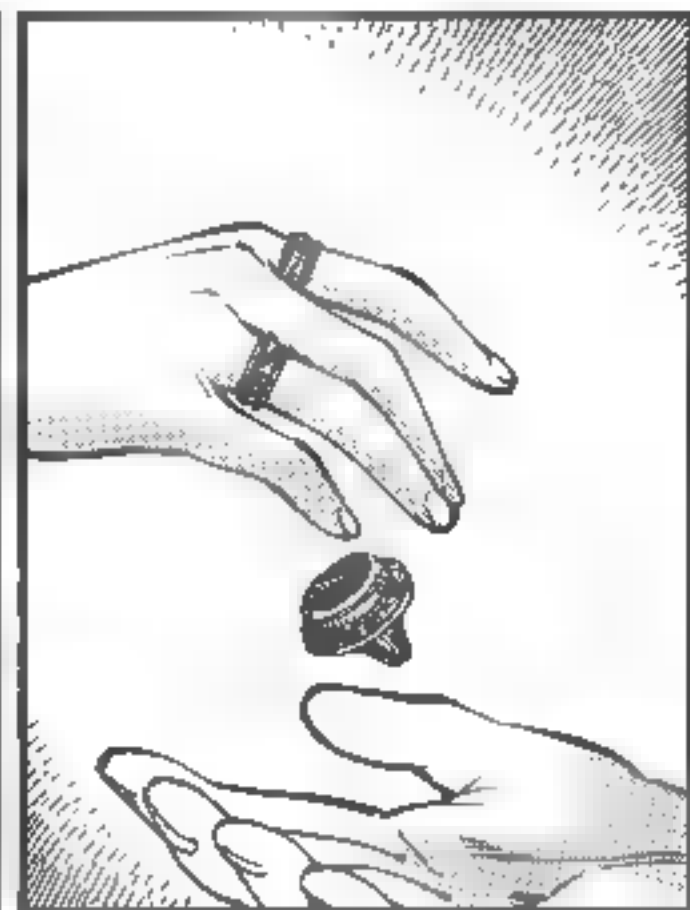
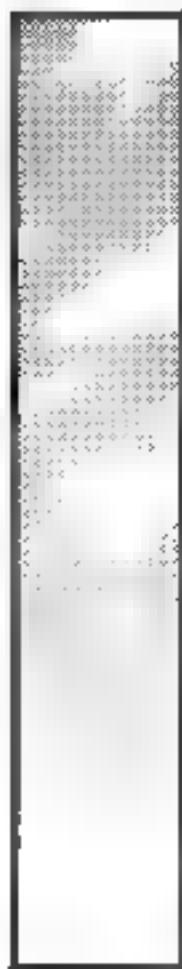


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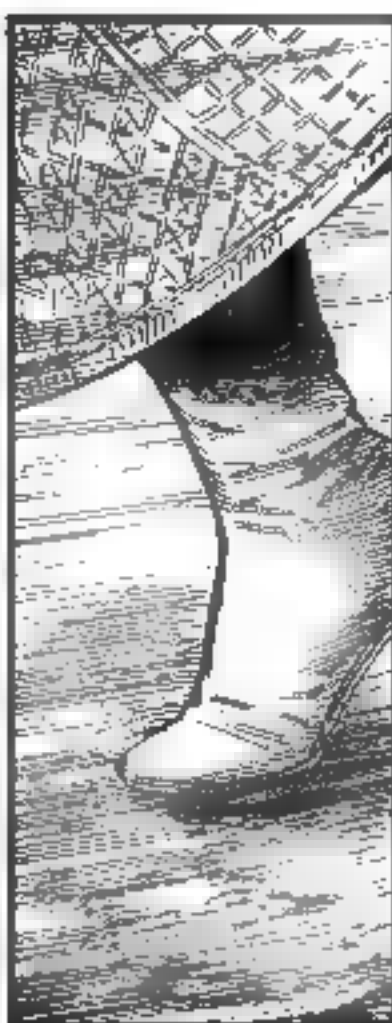
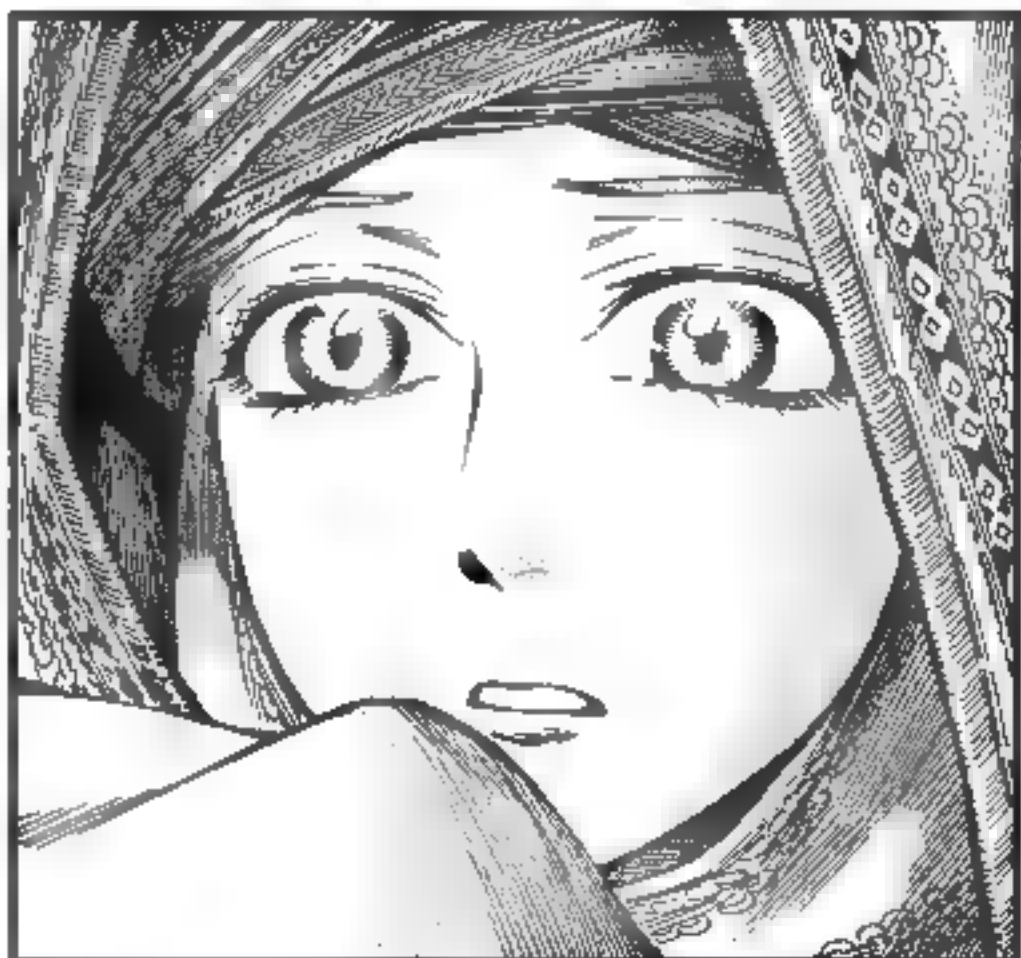


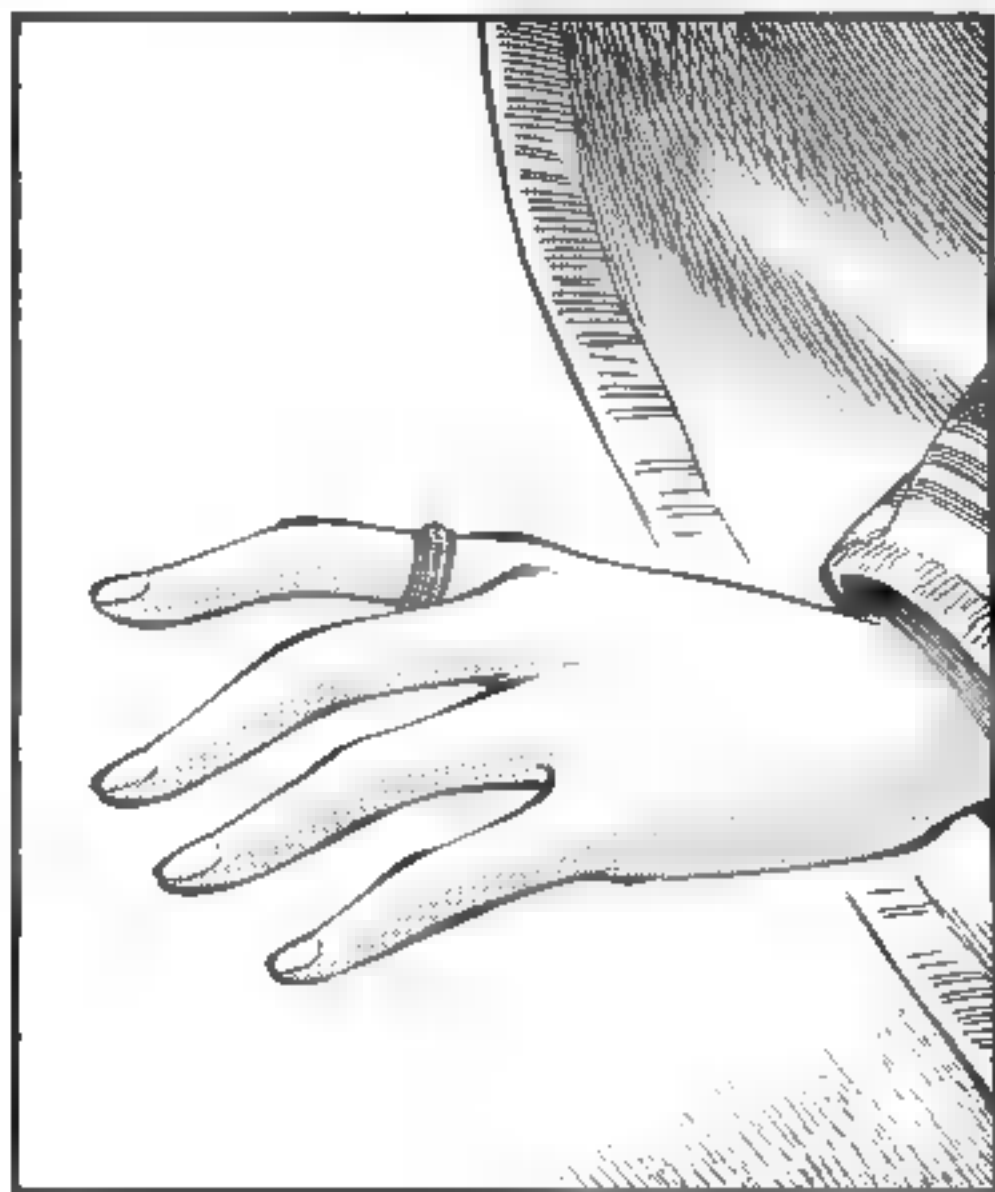
















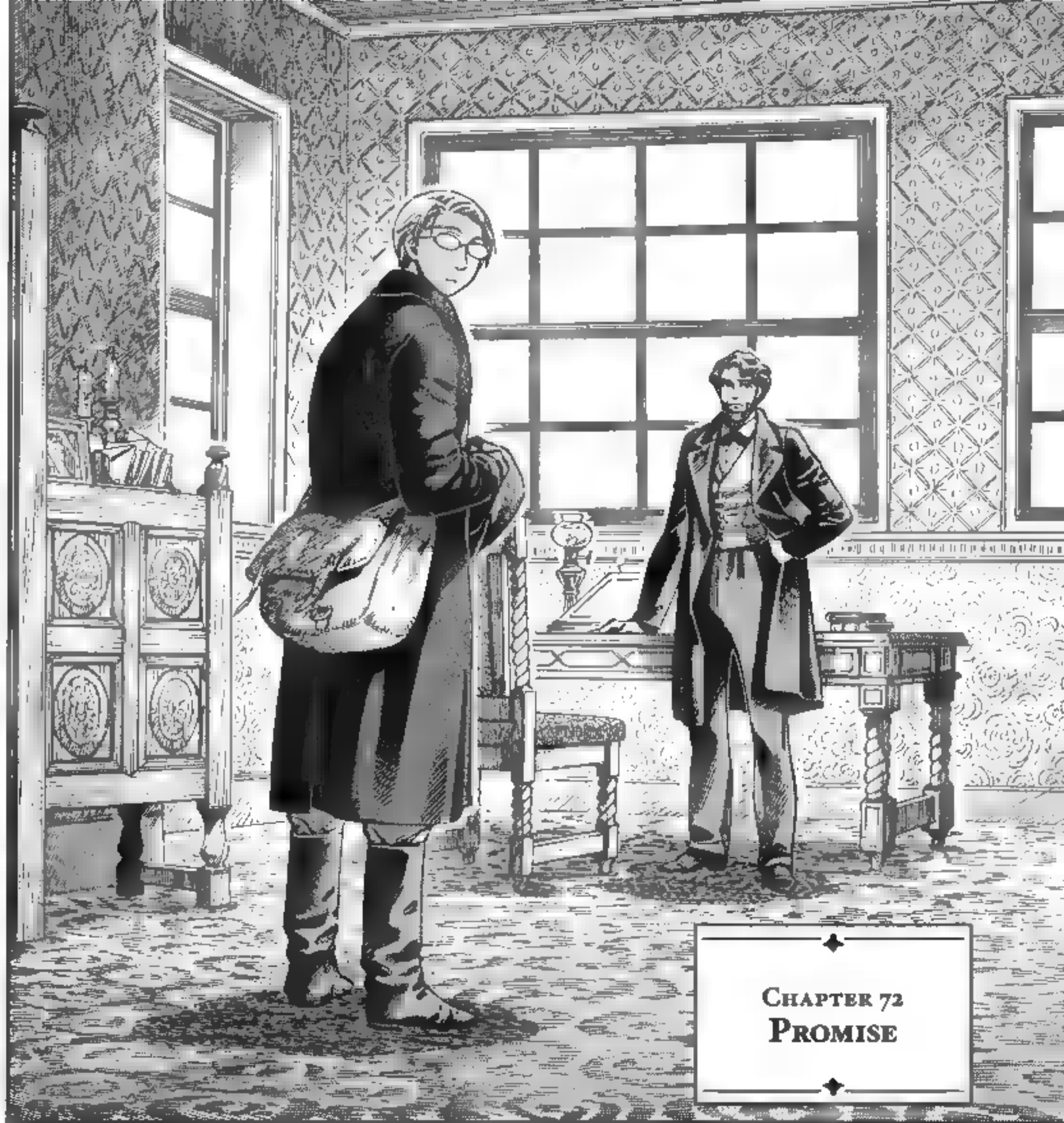
**HIS
EYES!**

A close-up of a woman's face, showing a shocked expression with wide, staring eyes and an open mouth. She is wearing a headscarf with a decorative border.

**MR.
SMITH!**

A man in a dark coat and hat is holding the hand of a woman in a light-colored dress and headscarf. The man is looking back over his shoulder with a surprised expression. The woman is looking at him with a determined or urgent expression. The background is simple, with some motion lines suggesting they are moving.







**KEEP
ME OUT
OF THIS!**

**YOU DID
THIS ALL
ON YOUR
OWN!**



**EXPLAIN
TO YOUR
FAMILY
YOURSELF
WHEN YOU
GET HOME!**

**I WON'T
ANSWER
THEM EVEN
IF THEY
ASK!**



**SO THAT'S
WHY YOU
REFUSE TO
GO HOME,
IS IT?**

**I
THOUGHT
YOU WERE
STUDYING
CULTURES,
BUT THAT'S
NOT ALL,
EH?**

**I NEVER
TOOK YOU
FOR THAT
SORT OF
MAN.**

**NO!
THAT'S
NOT...**

**THIS
AND THAT
ARE TWO
SEPARATE
MATTERS...**



**YOU HAVE
BRAINS
BUT NO
COMMON
SENSE!**

**NO, YOU
HAVEN'T
THOUGHT
AT ALL!**



**YOU KNOW
WHAT WILL
HAPPEN IF
YOU BRING
HER BACK TO
ENGLAND,
DON'T YOU!?**

**I HAVE
THOUGHT
ABOUT
IT...**



**YOU MAKE
THE MOST
SERIOUS
DECISIONS
WITHOUT A
THOUGHT.**

**THIS IS
ALL DUE
TO YOUR
NAIVETÉ,
SMITH.**



HE
LEFT ME NO
OPENING
TO LEAVE.

I'VE
BEEN
THROUGH
HELL.



OH,
BOSS!

YOU'RE
LATE.



IT
WAS OUT
OF THE
BLUE, I'M
AFRAID.

I FEAR
I'VE GIVEN
HIM A
SHOCK, IS
ALL.



HMF.

HE
SURE IS
TROUBLE
FOR
SOMEONE
WHO ISN'T
YOUR
FATHER.



WELL,
ABOUT
THAT...



WELL?

WHEN
DO WE
LEAVE?

ARE YOU
TAKING
HER WITH
YOU?











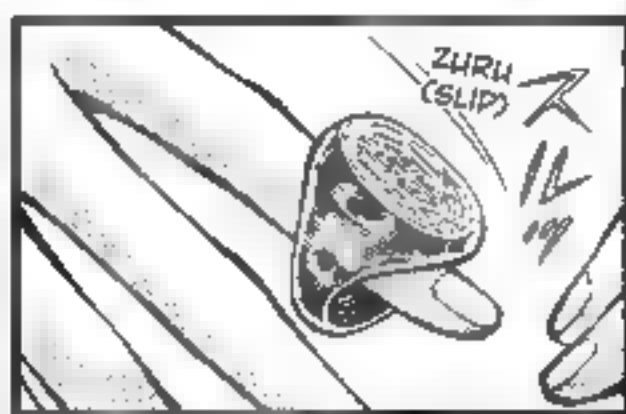
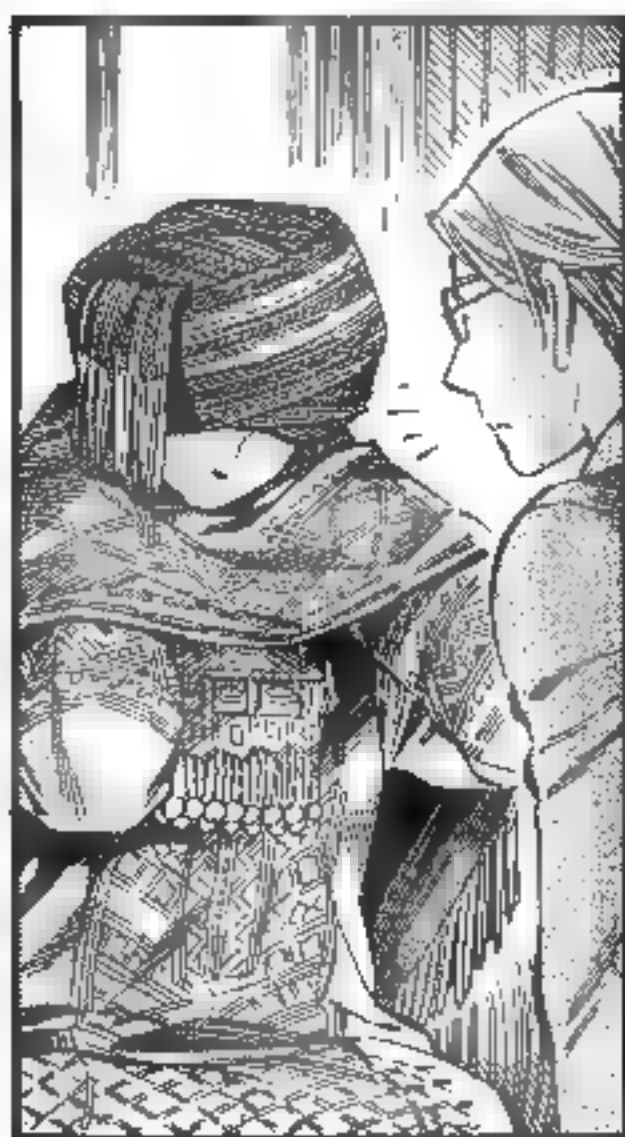


WHAT IS THE MATTER?

SURELY I MUST HAVE SOMETHING...



AH!



WE'LL GO HAVE IT ADJUSTED SOMEWHERE...

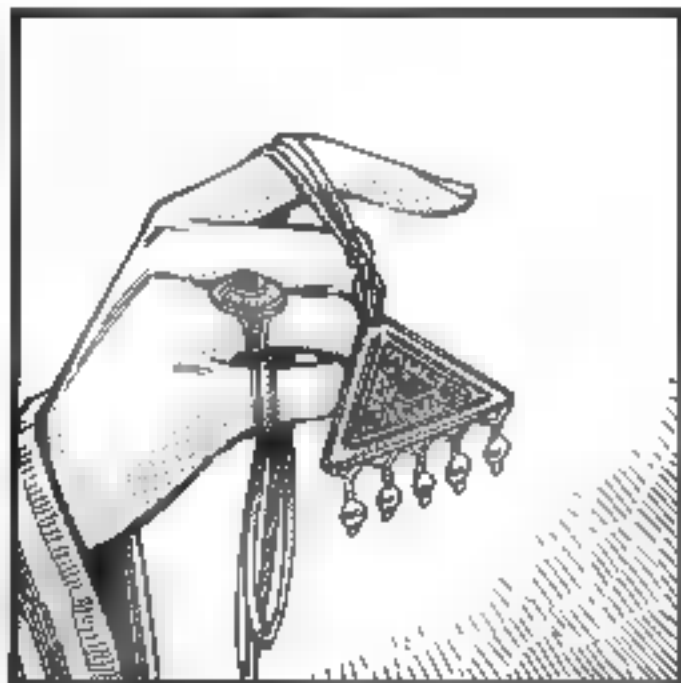
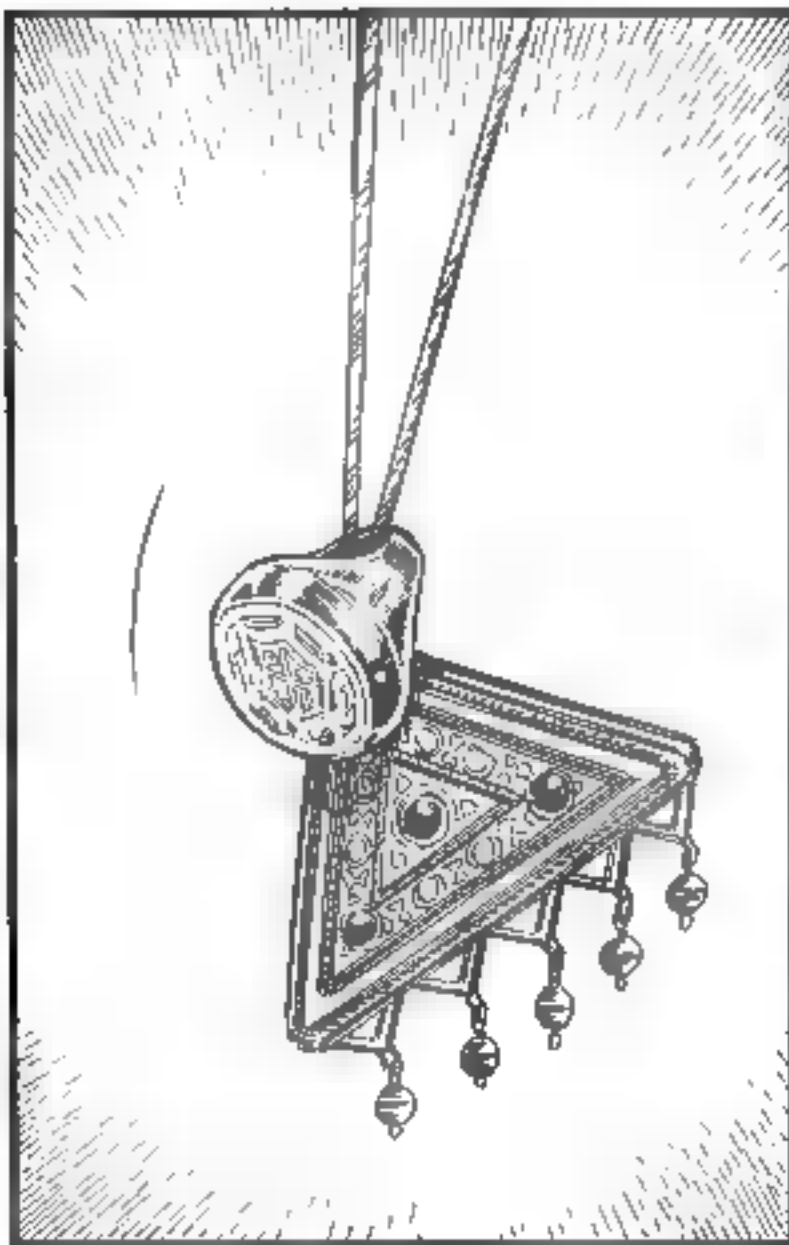
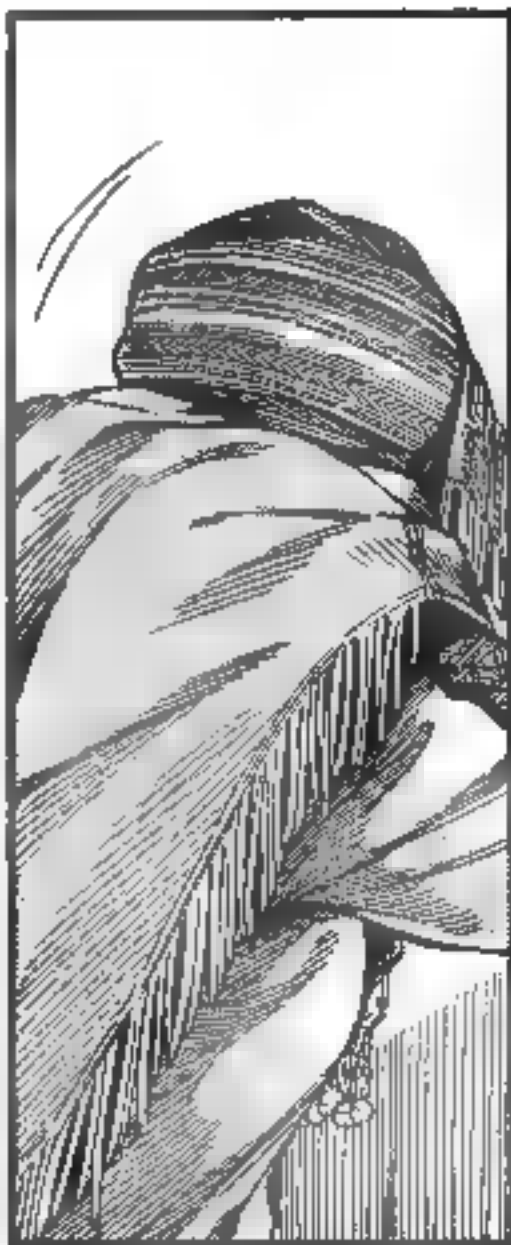
I KNEW IT! IT'S TOO BIG!

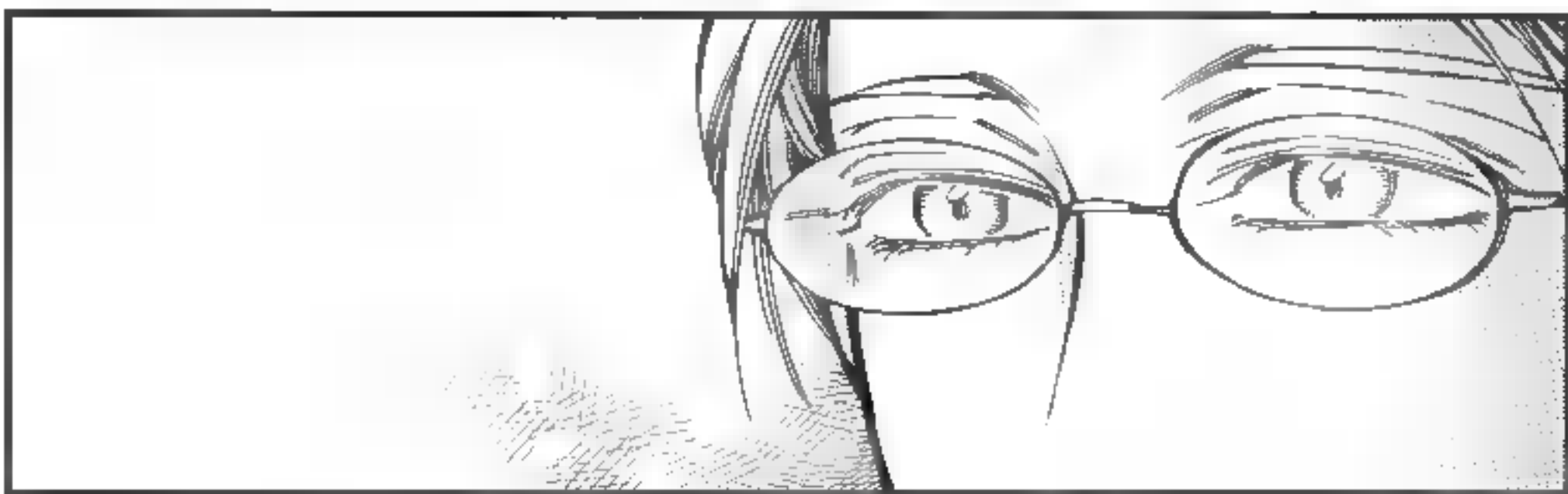
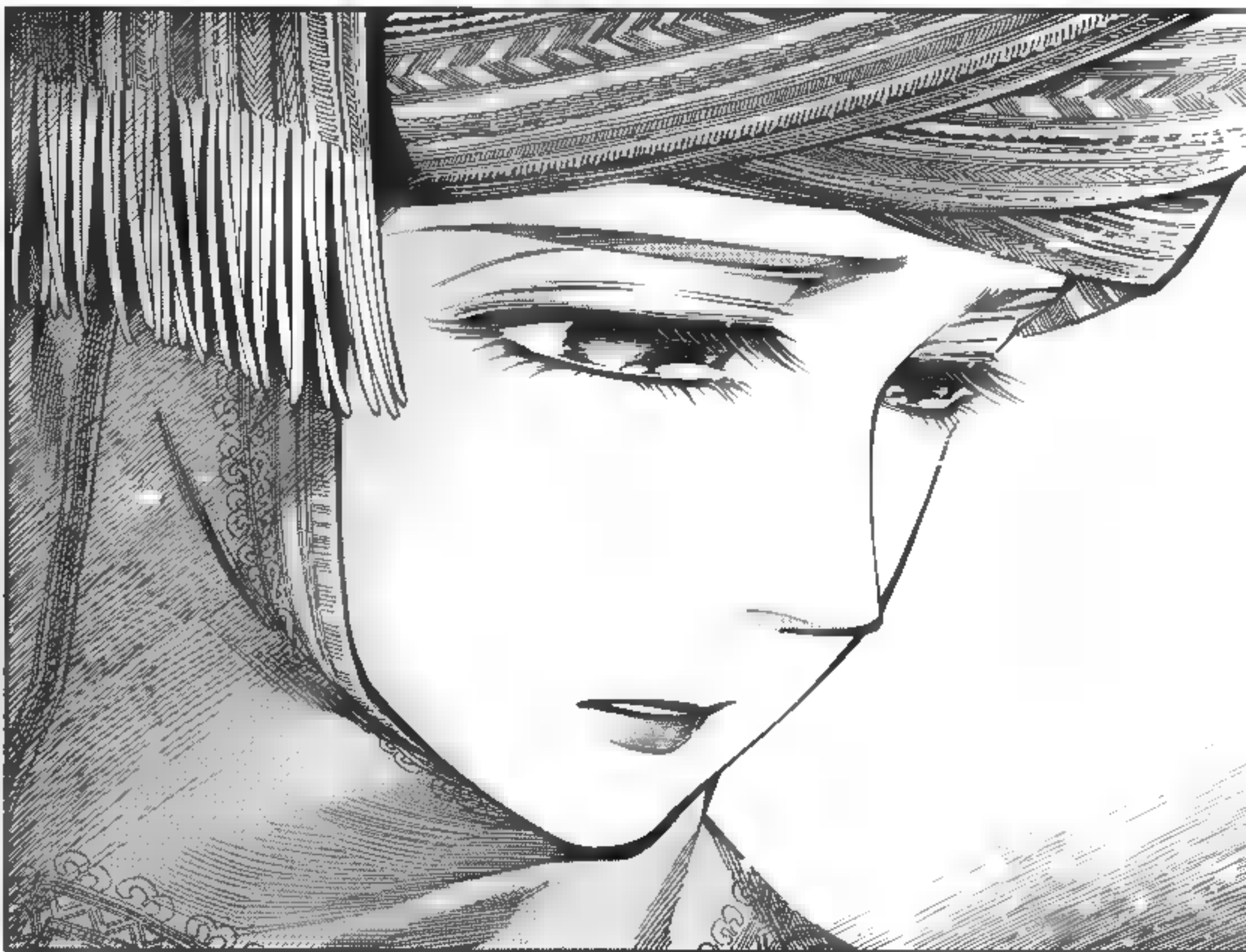
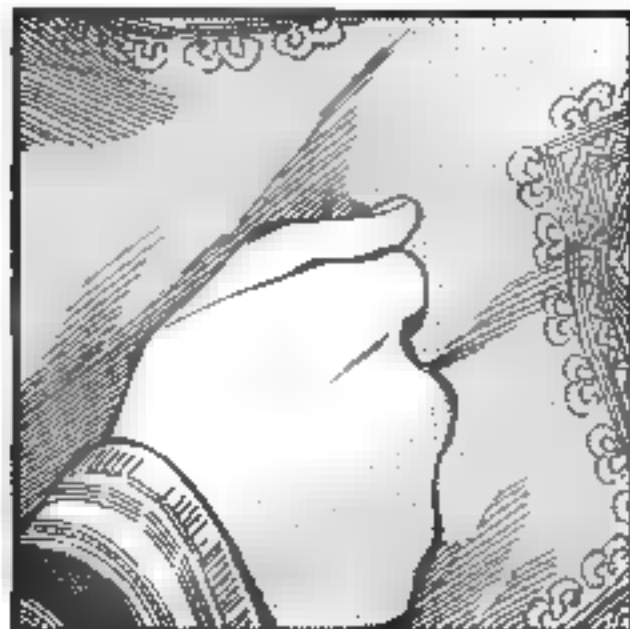


I'M AFRAID I DO NOT USE IT MUCH.

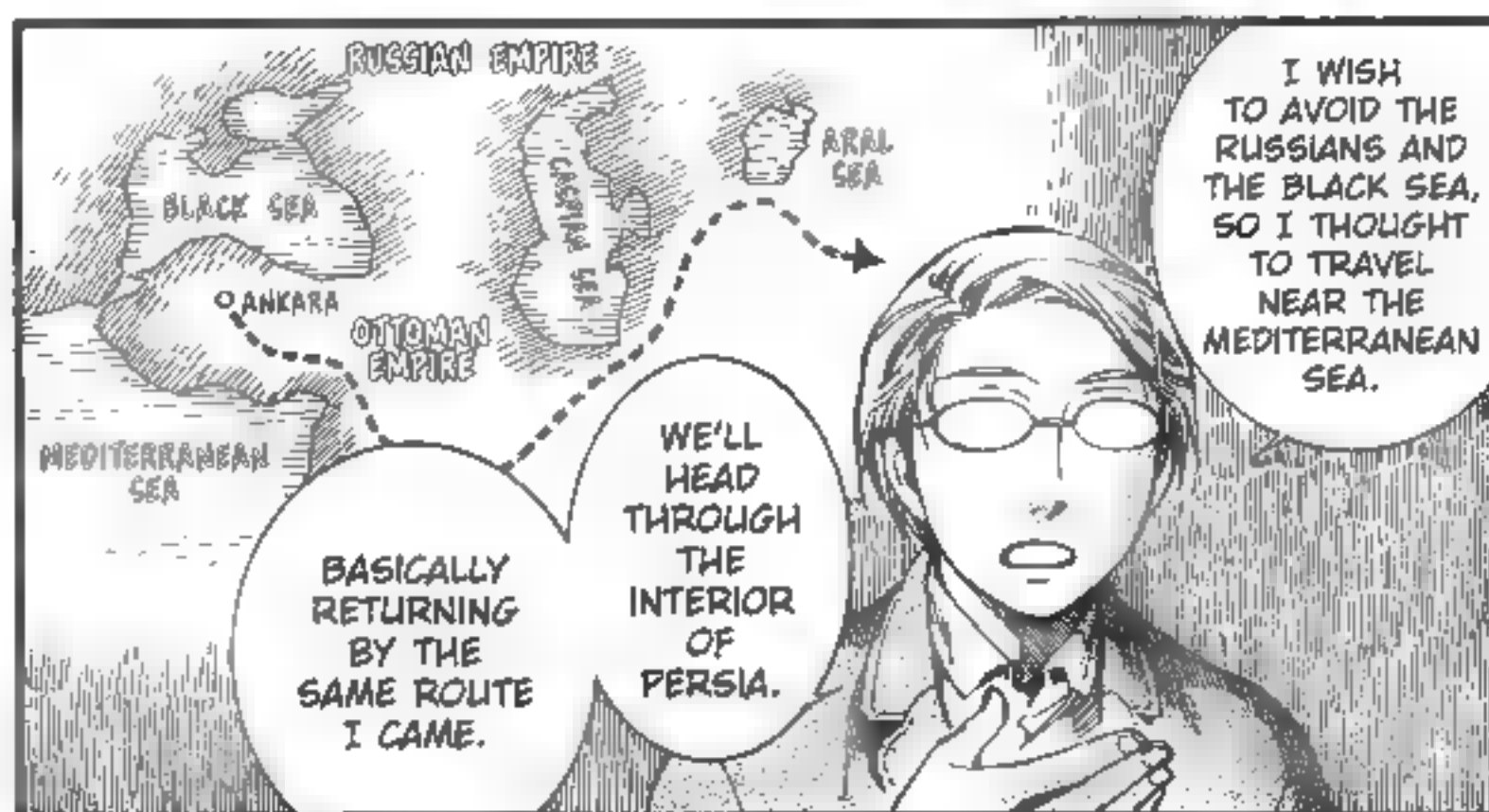
IT'S FOR MAKING SEALS.

AND I CAN'T SAY WHETHER IT REALLY COUNTS FOR PROOF OR NOT.



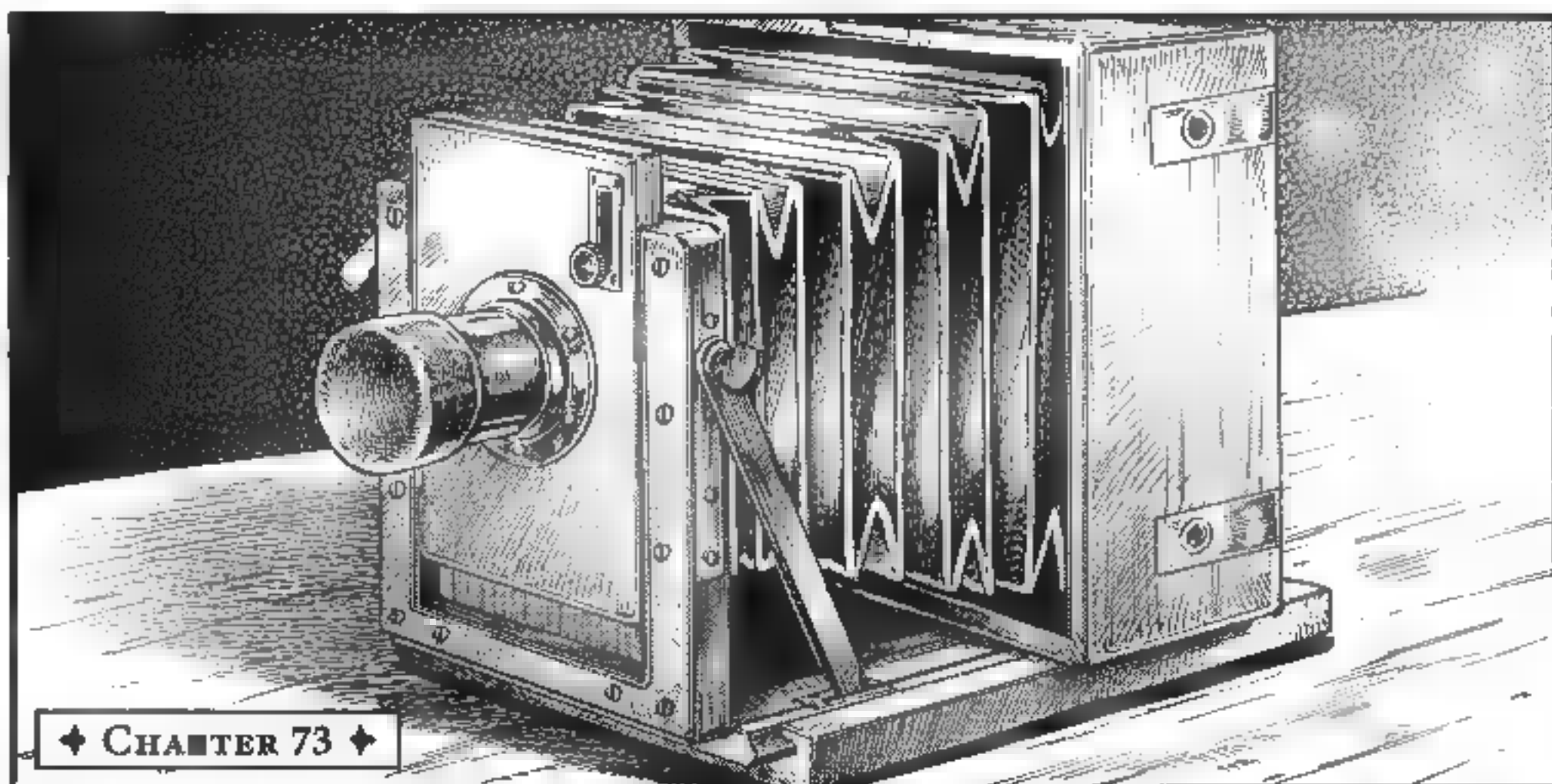




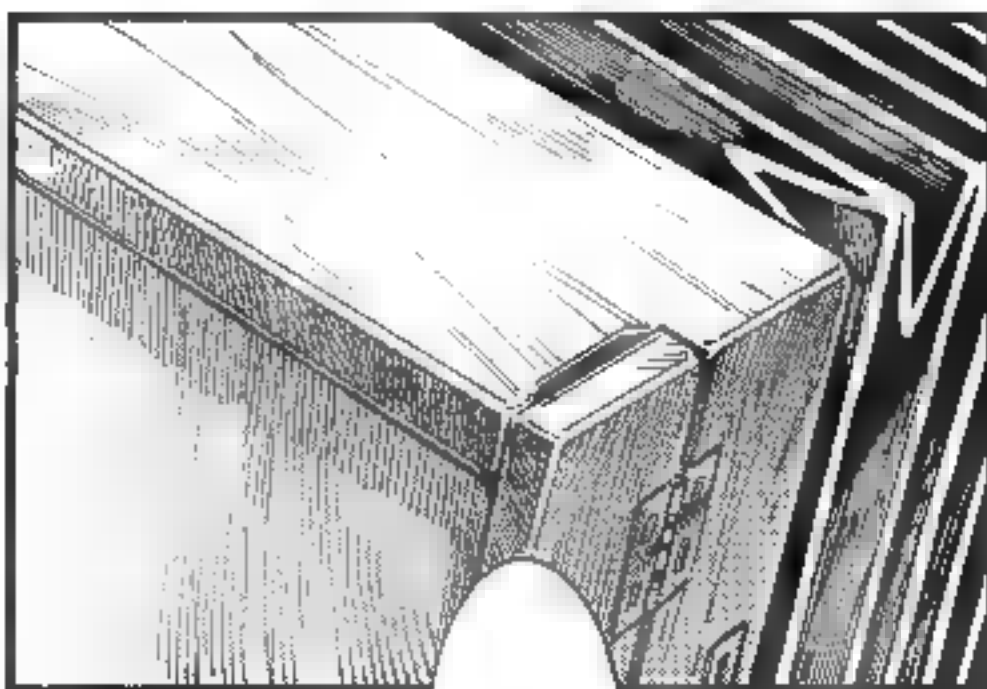
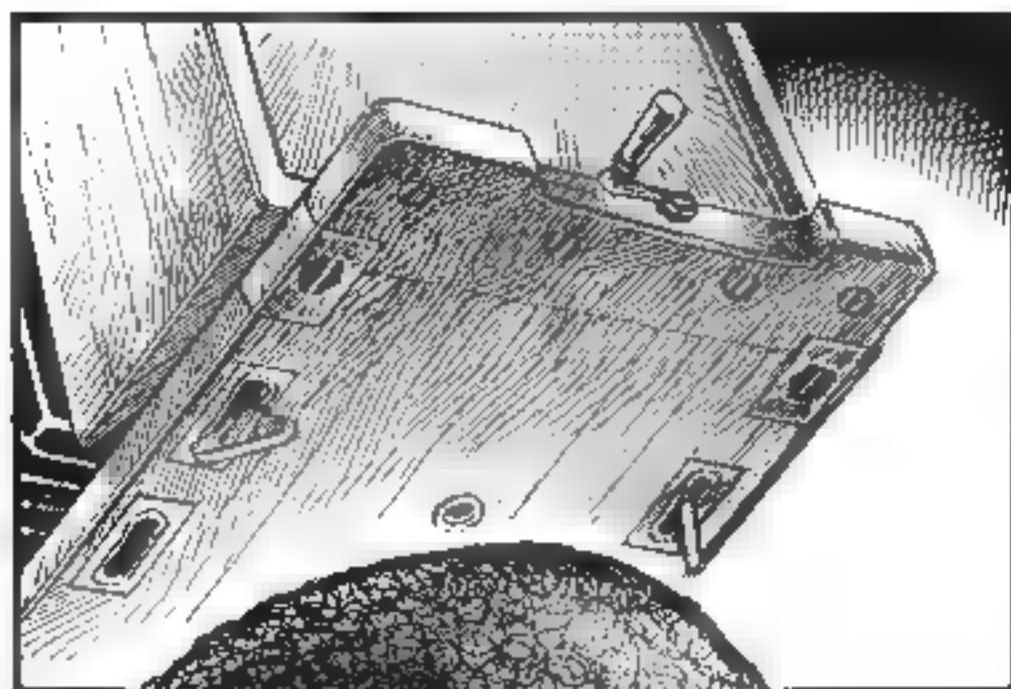


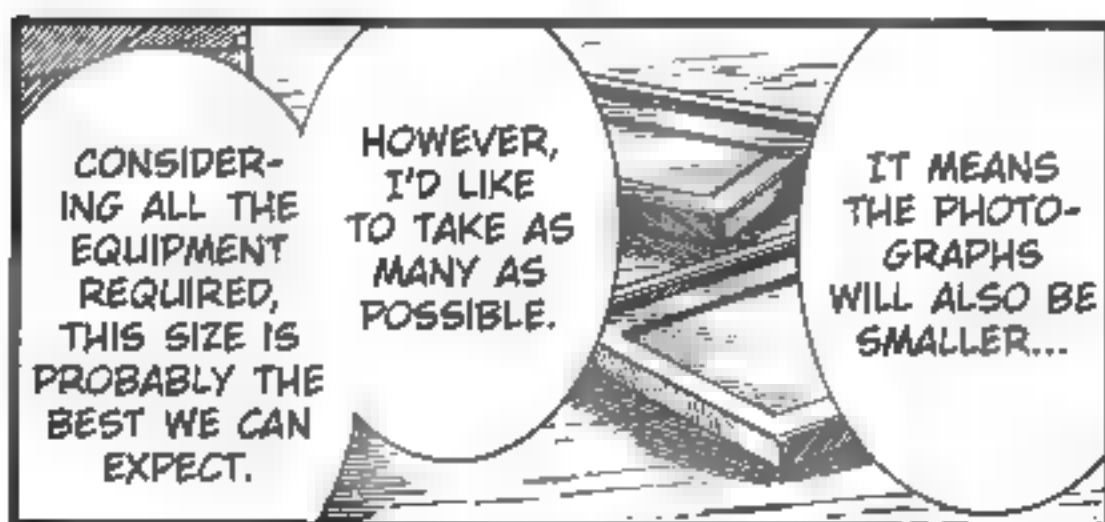






◆ CHAPTER 73 ◆

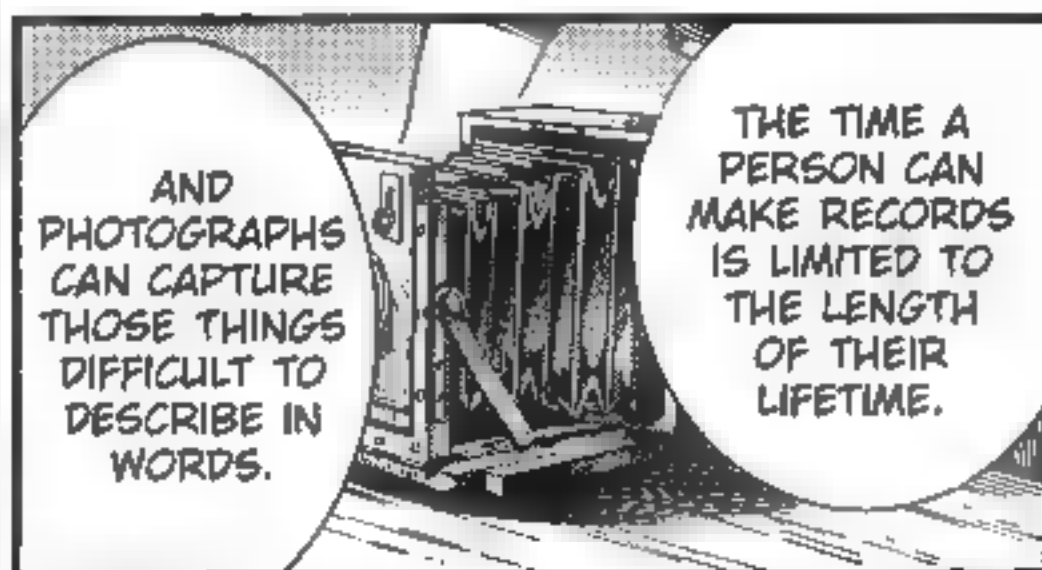






IT'S
USEFUL.

IT IS?



AND
PHOTOGRAPHS
CAN CAPTURE
THOSE THINGS
DIFFICULT TO
DESCRIBE IN
WORDS.

THE TIME A
PERSON CAN
MAKE RECORDS
IS LIMITED TO
THE LENGTH
OF THEIR
LIFETIME.



SO
IT'S LEFT
AFTER YOU
DIE. WHAT
THEN?



IT
CERTAINLY
WILL BE.

EVENTU-
ALLY
IT WILL.



AND
TAKE
CARE WHEN
TRAVELING
WITH
THEM.

THE
CHEMICALS
ARE
DANGEROUS,
SO STORE
THEM IN A
SAFE
PLACE.



I FEAR WE
WILL NEED
MORE PACK
CAMELS.

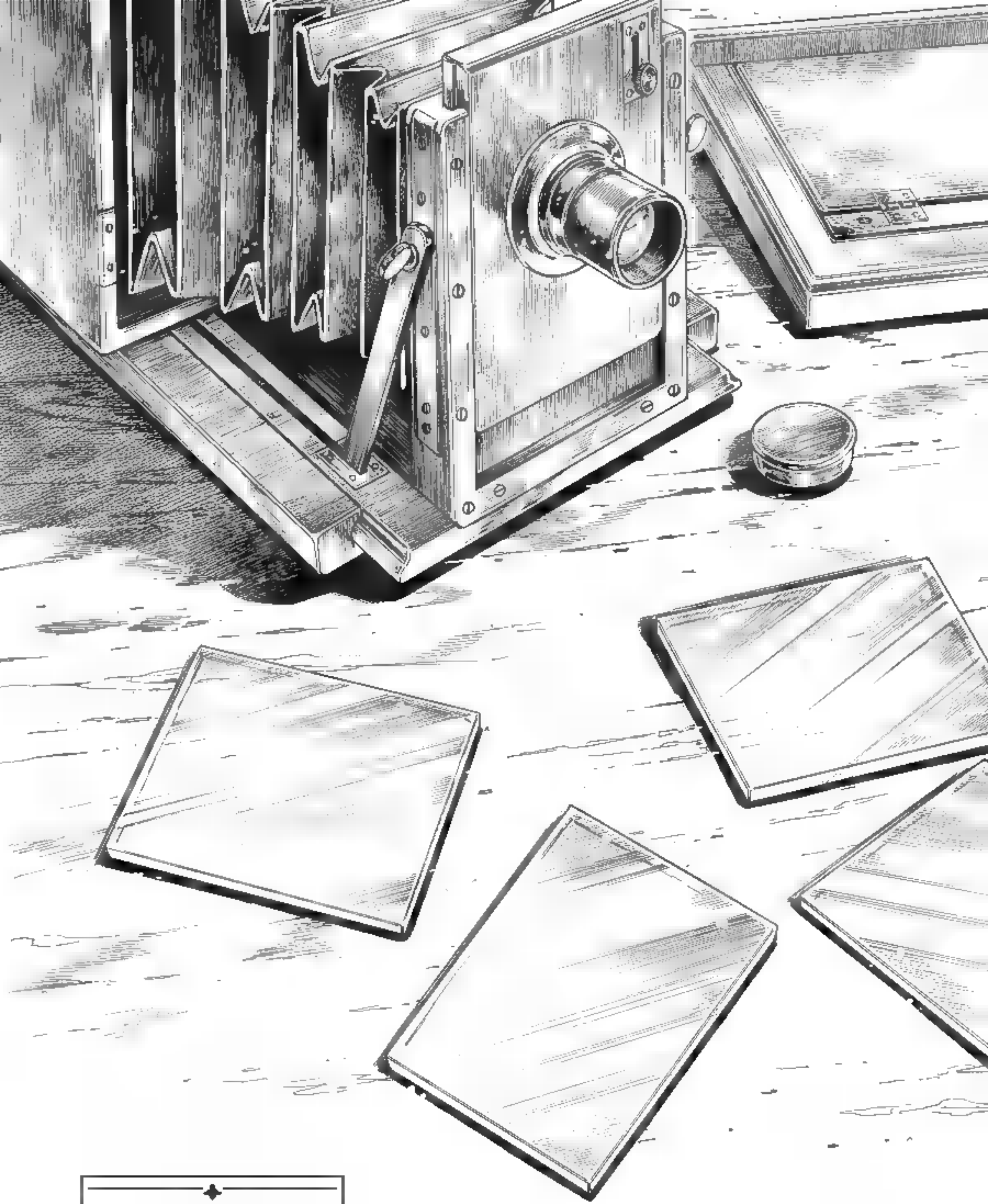
DOKA
(THINK)



SMITH!

HERE'S
THE EQUIP-
MENT.

TAKE
IT WITH
YOU.



◆
CHAPTER 73
WET COLLODION
PROCESS
◆



A
PORTABLE
DARK-
ROOM.

A
BATH.



AN
ALCOHOL
LAMP.

GLASS
PLATES
AND A
PLATE
HOLDER.



BEAKERS
AND SUCH
FOR MIXING.
MEASURING
EQUIPMENT.



CHEMI-
CALS.



NOW...



BE VERY
CAREFUL
WITH
THEM.



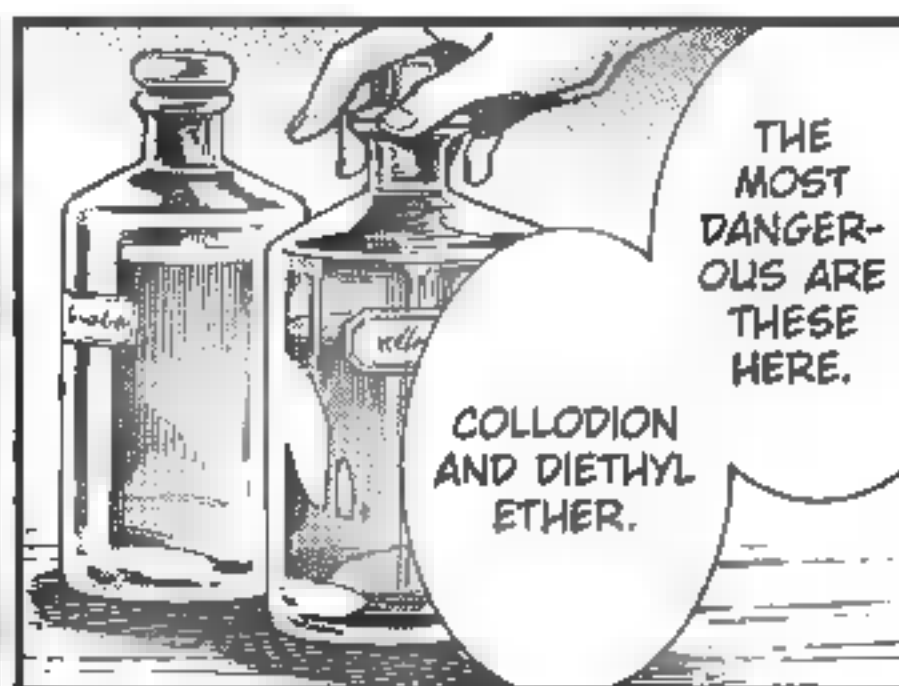
BUT YOU'RE
HANDLING
DANGEROUS
CHEMICALS.

THE METHOD
OF TAKING A
PHOTOGRAPH
IS QUITE
SIMPLE.



DON'T
USE FIRE
AROUND
THEM.
THEY'LL
EXPLODE.

DRINK
EITHER,
AND YOU
DIE. GET
THEM IN
YOUR EYE,
YOU GO
BLIND.



THE
MOST
DANGER-
OUS ARE
THESE
HERE.

COLLODION
AND DIETHYL
ETHER.



AH.

YES, OF
COURSE.

THEY
LOOK
EASY
TO MIX
UP.

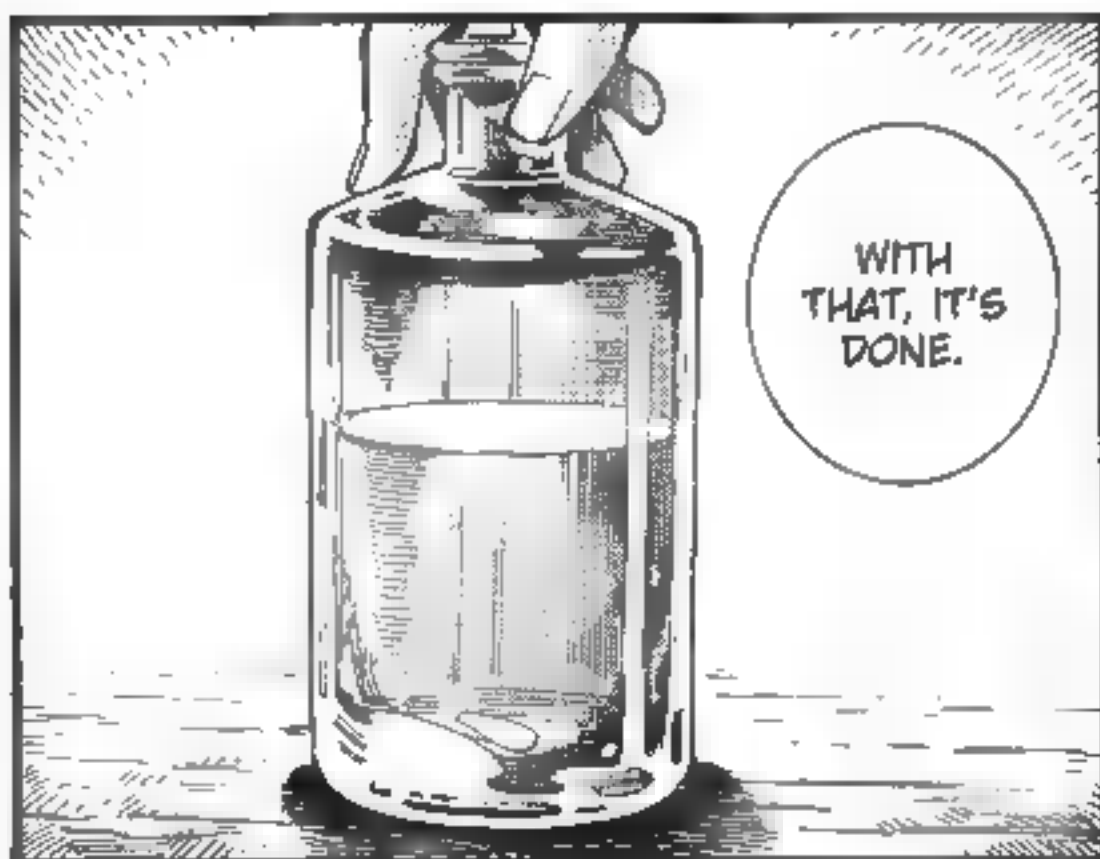
COULD
YOU AT
LEAST PUT
A NOTE ON
THE WORST
ONES OR
SOME-
THING?

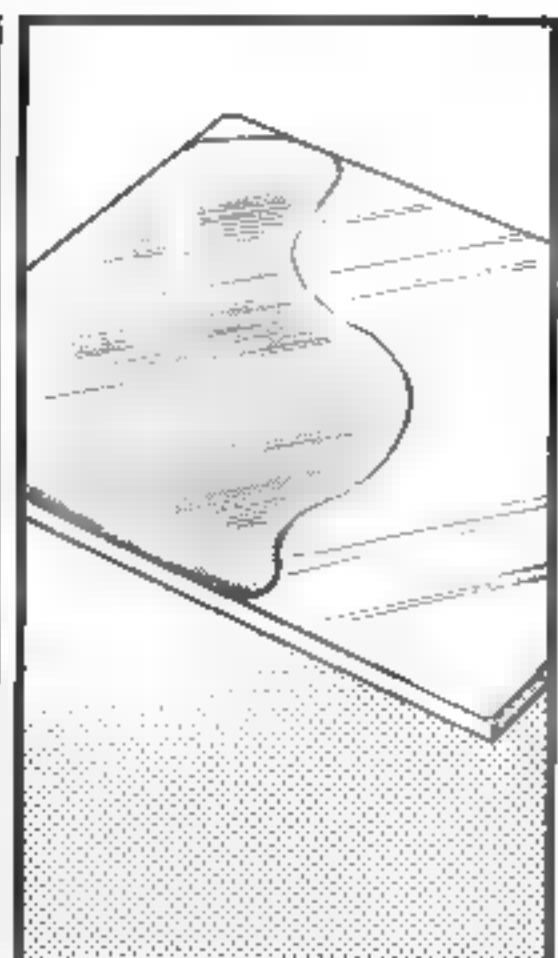
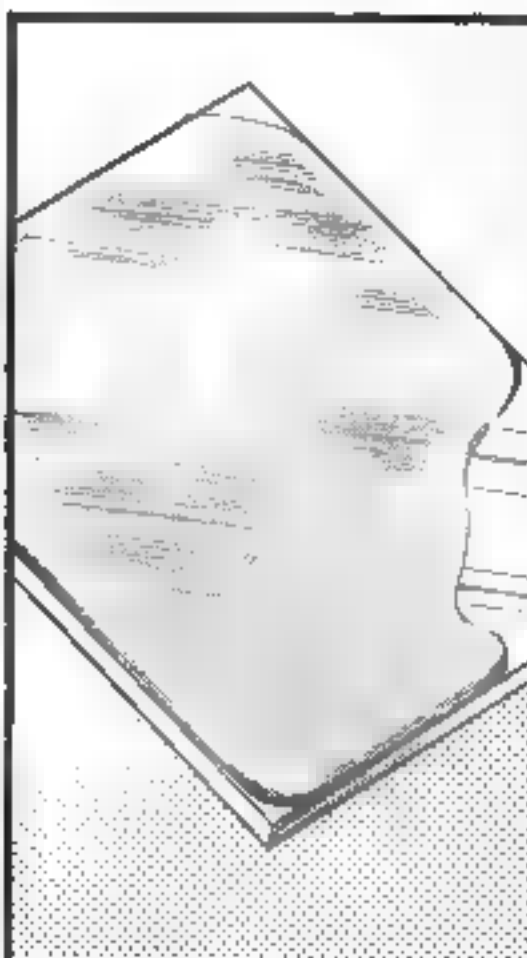
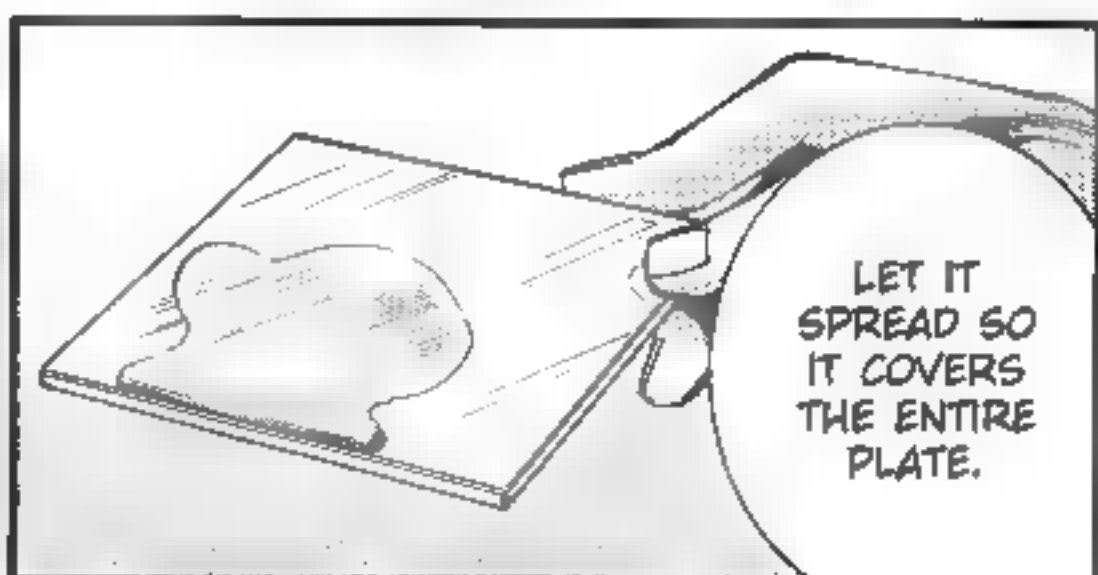
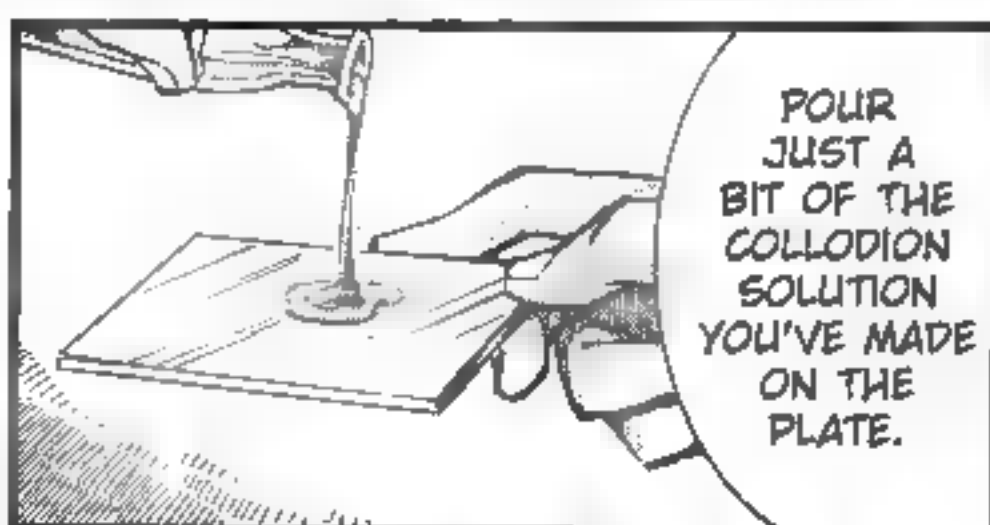
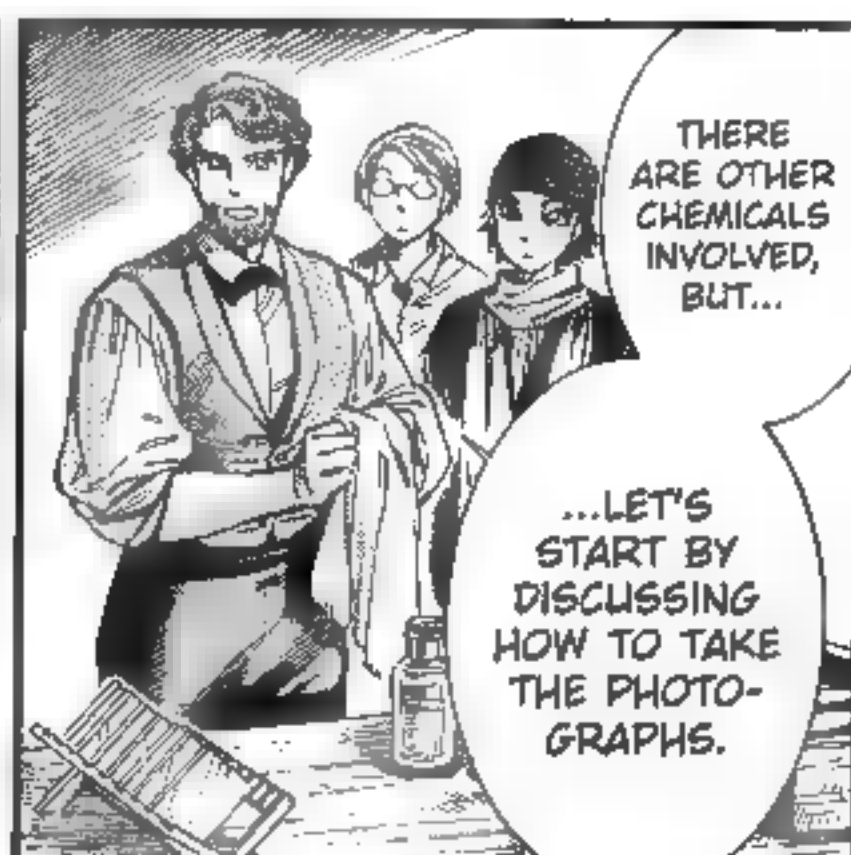


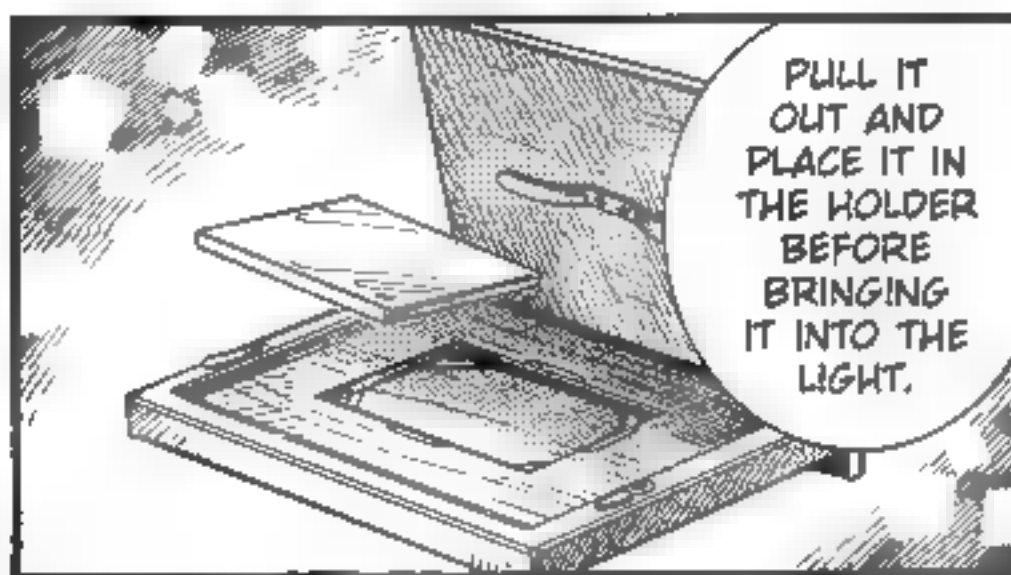
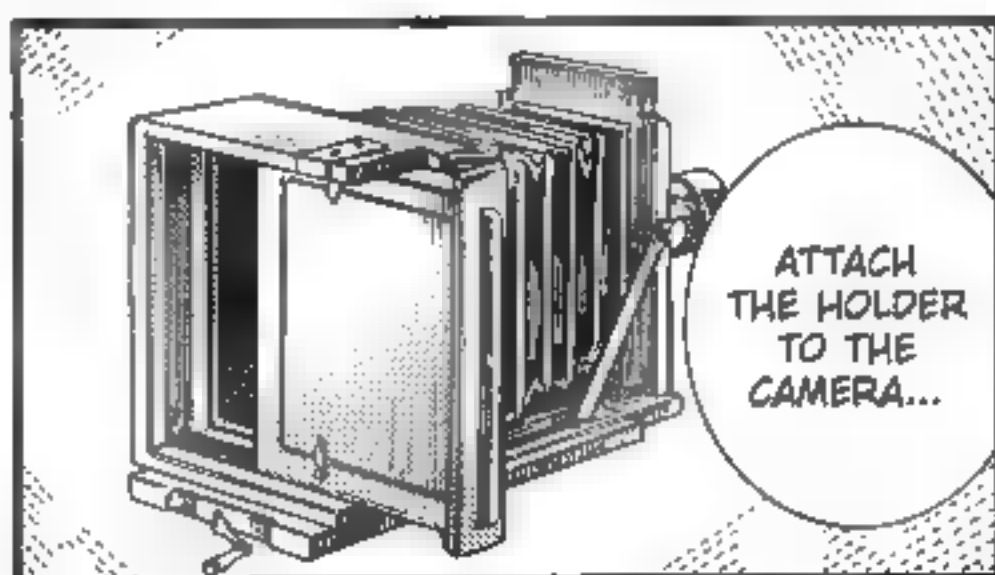
POISONS
?

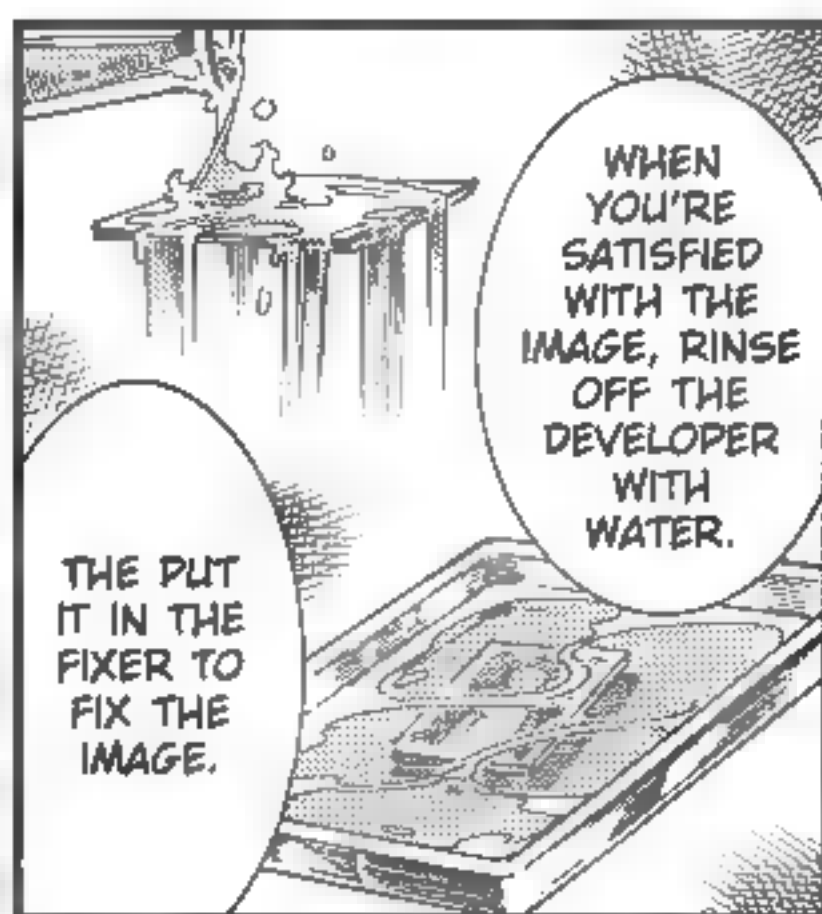


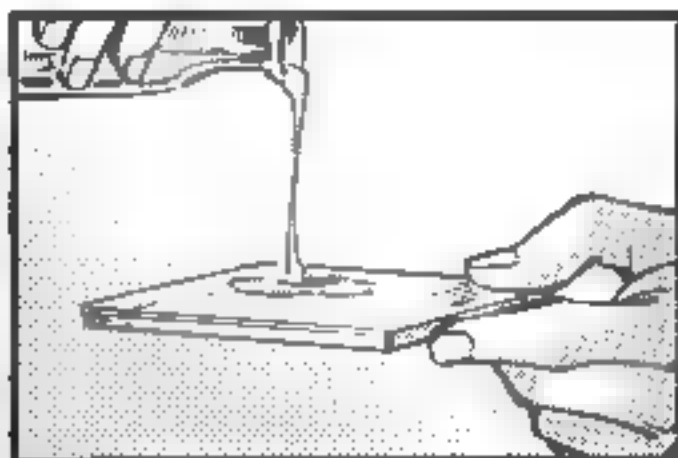


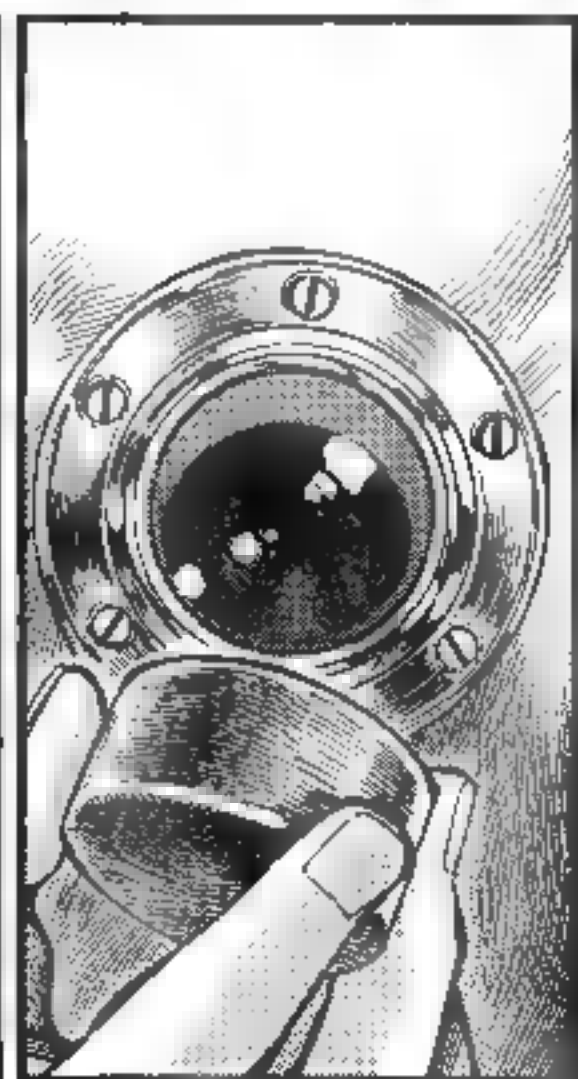
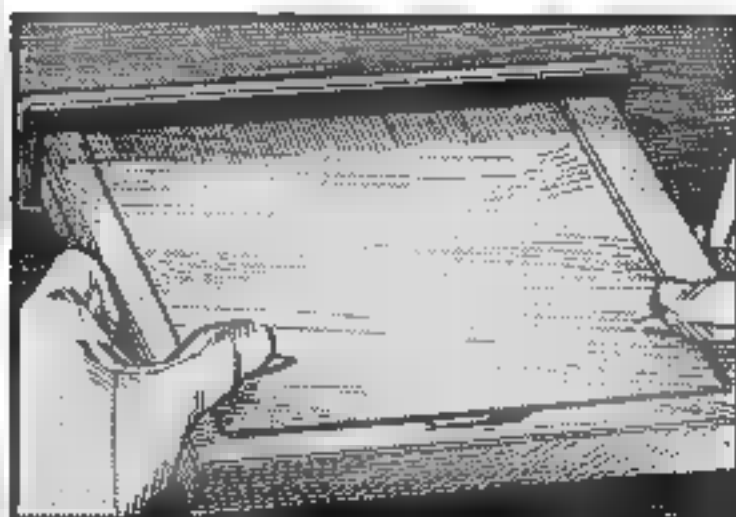
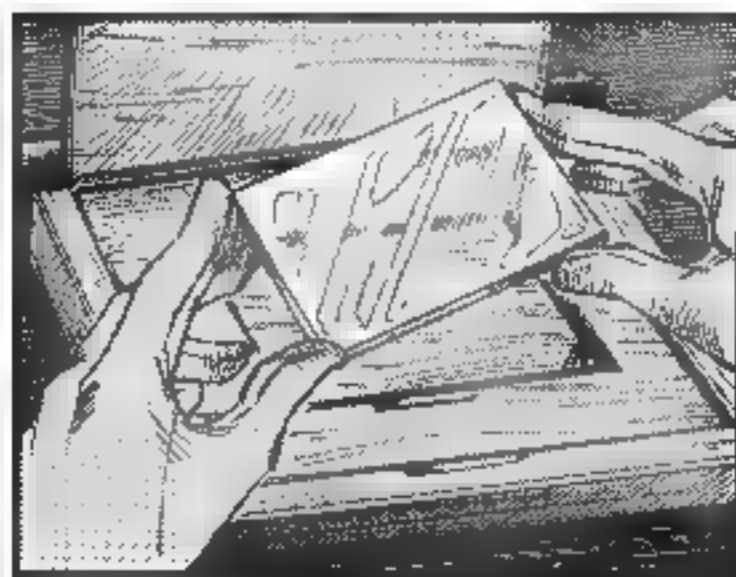
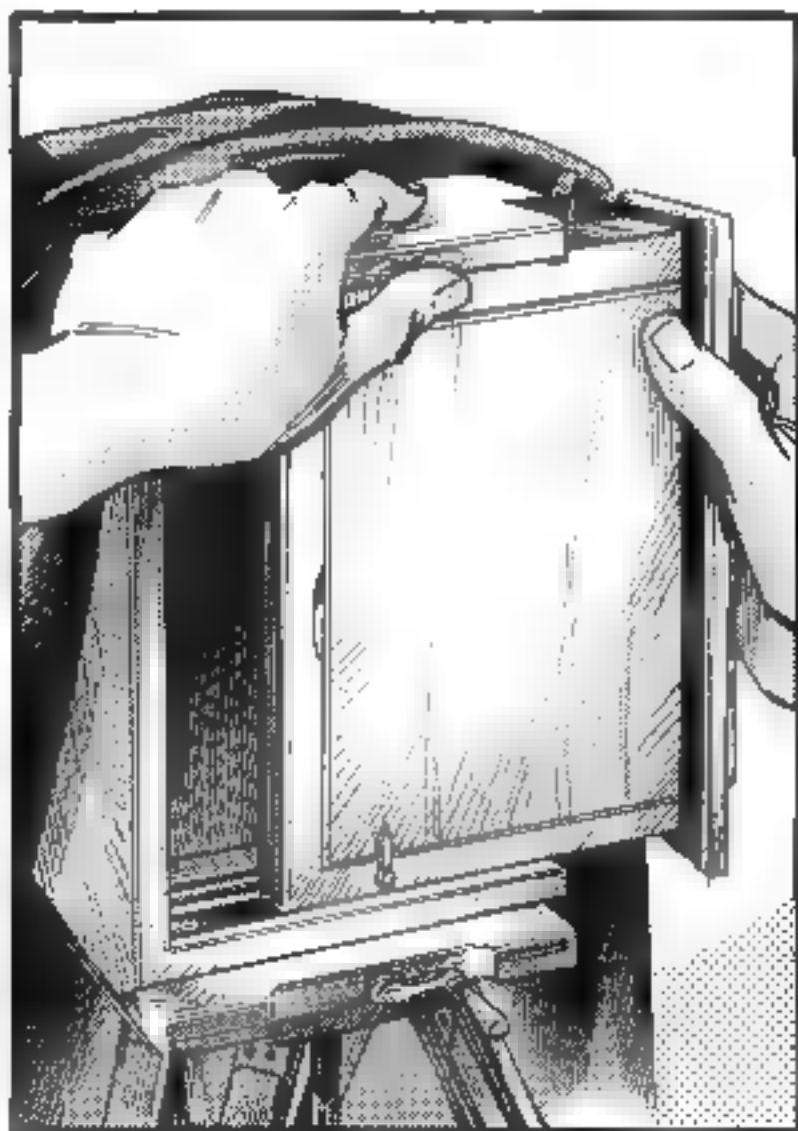


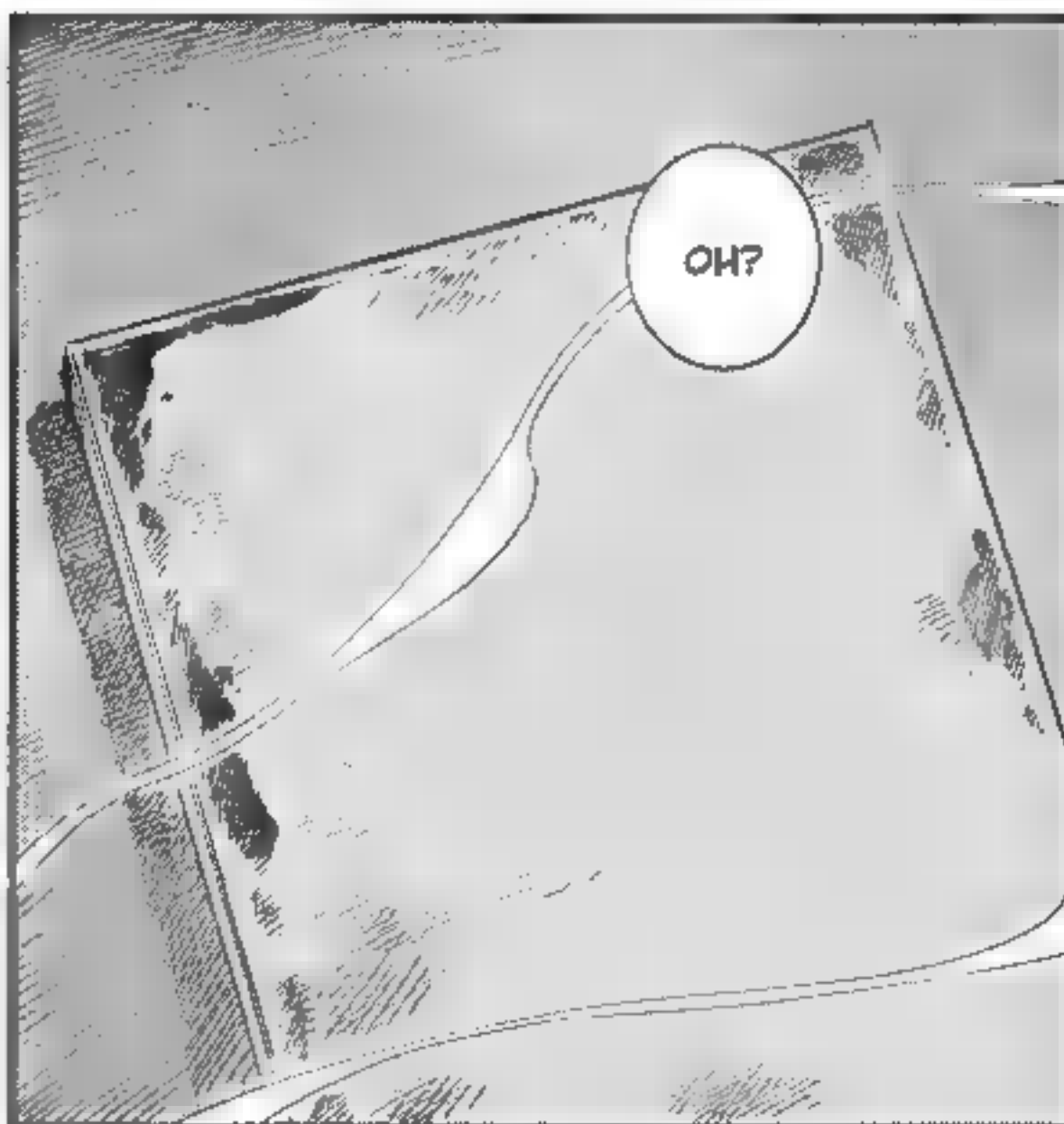
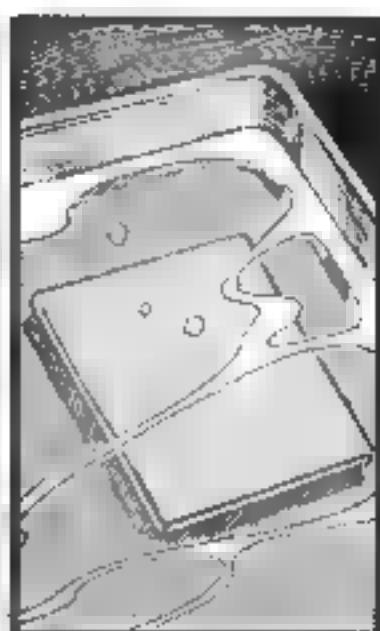




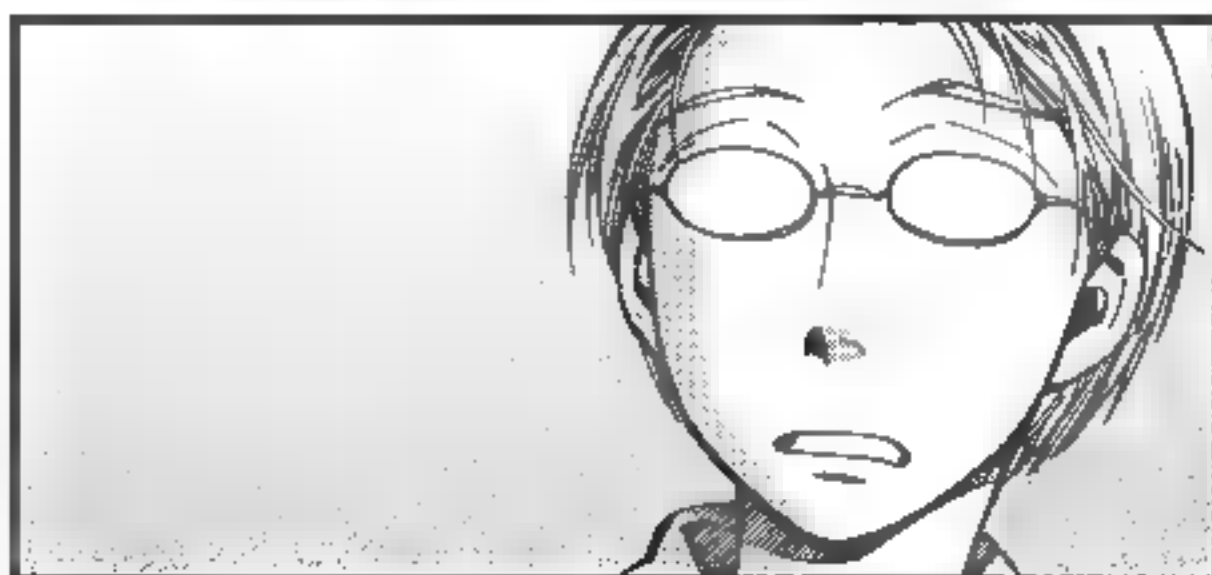
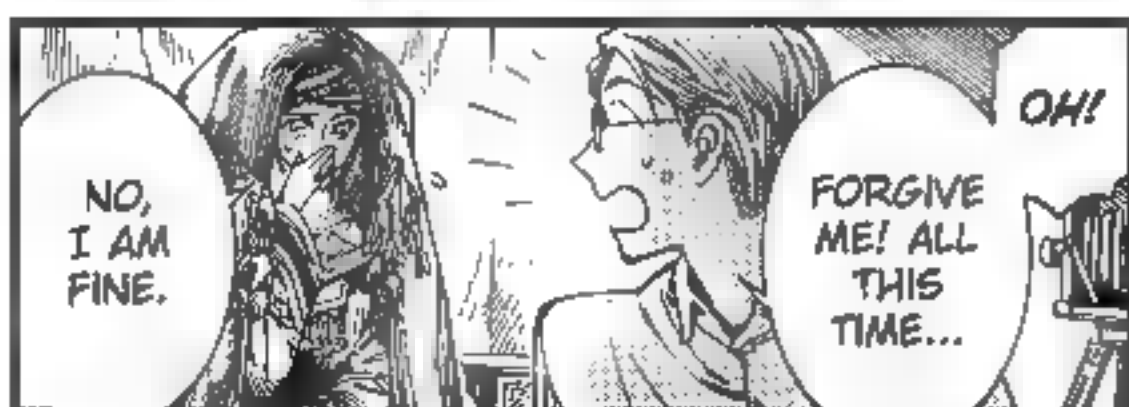


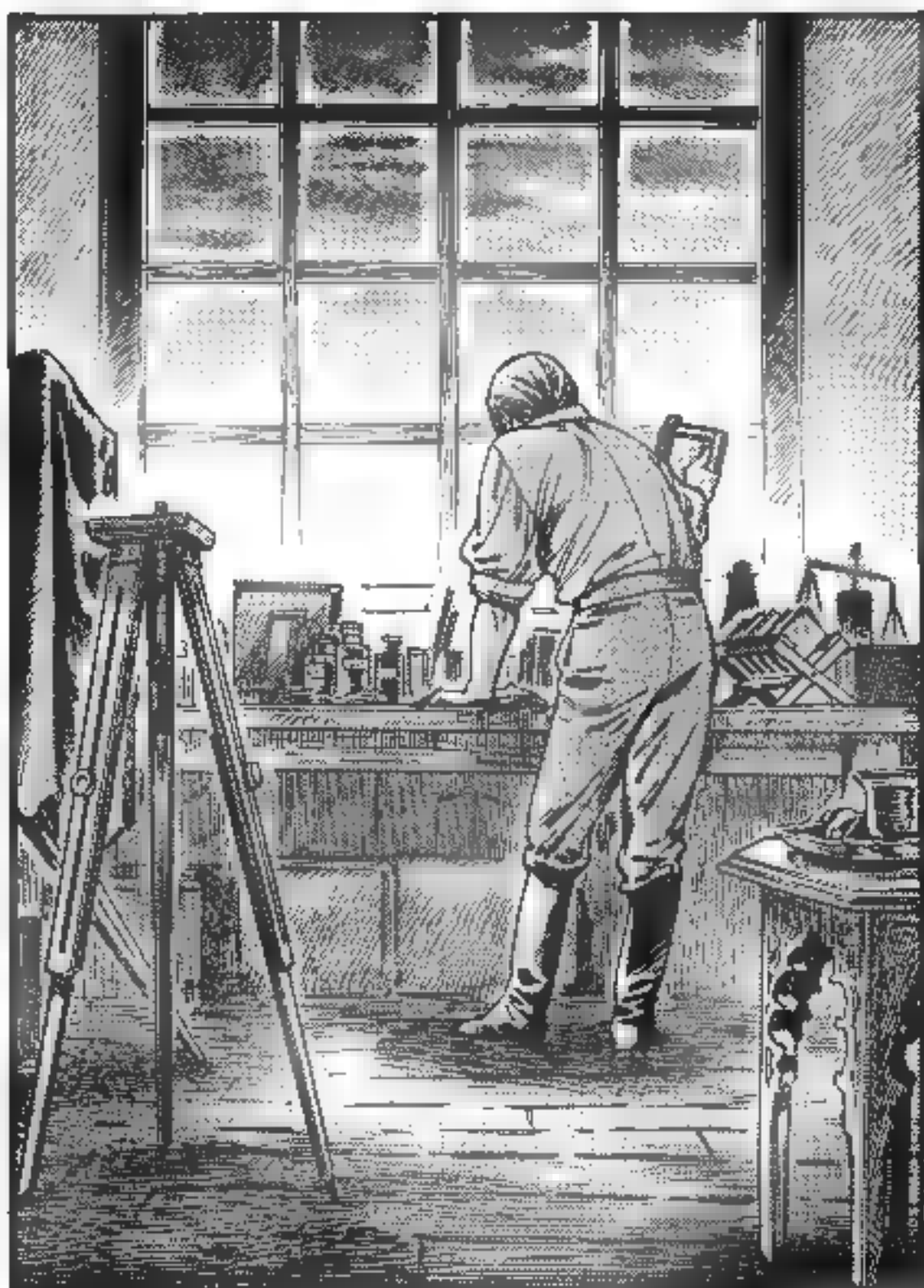
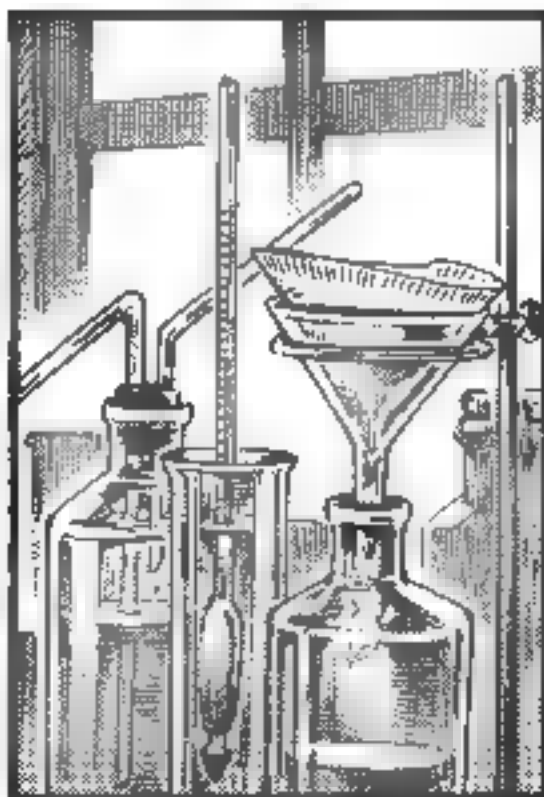
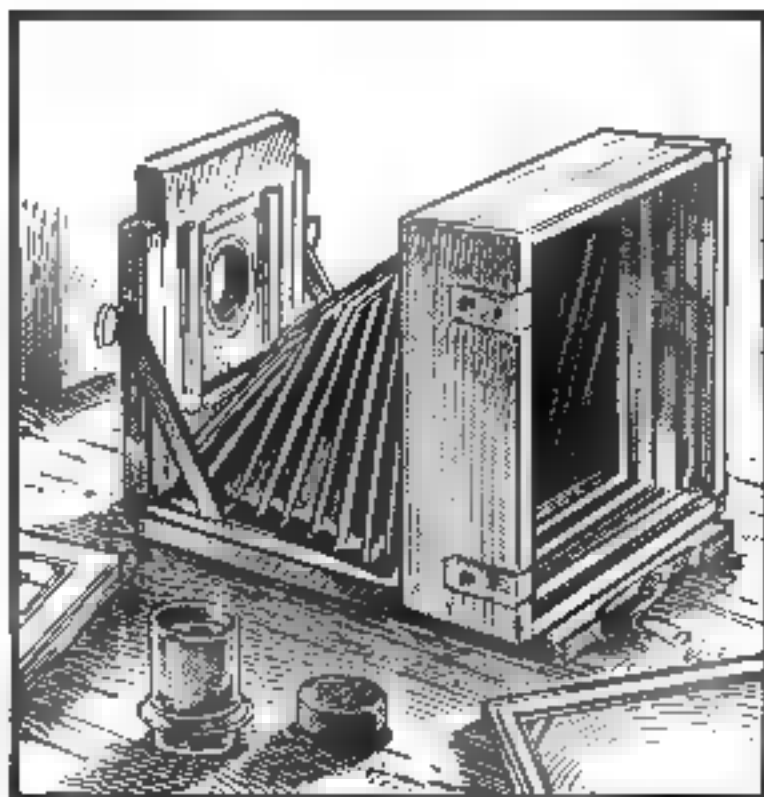








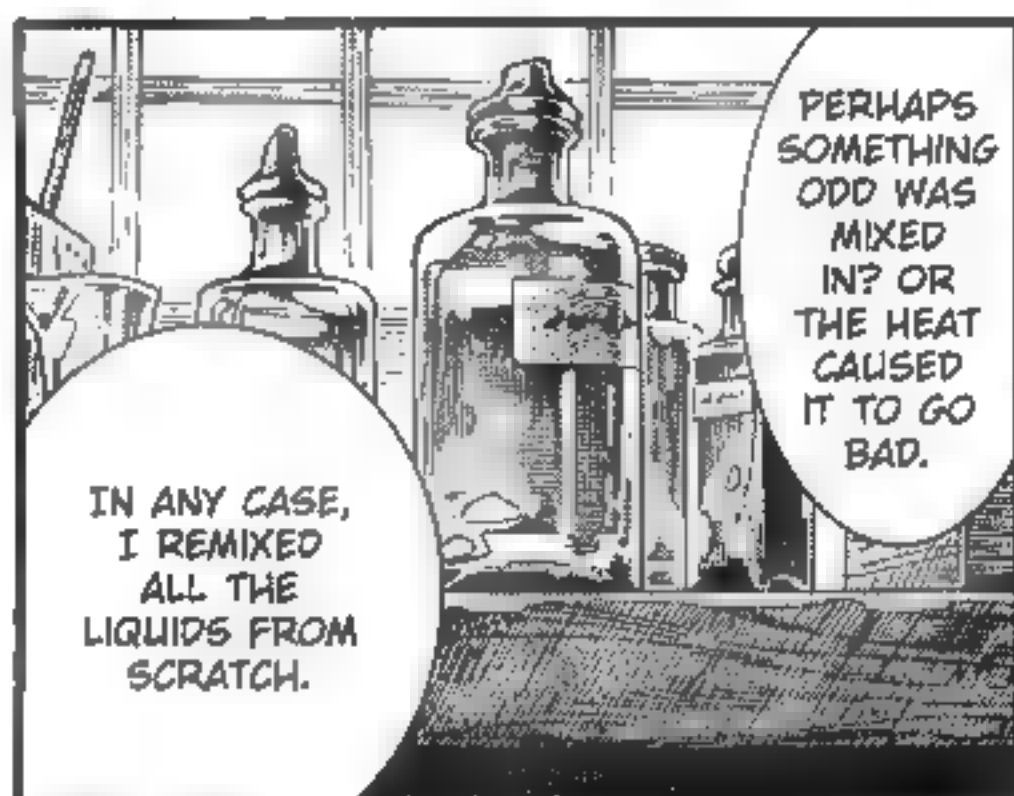






ALL
RIGHT. I'M
FINISHED.

.....



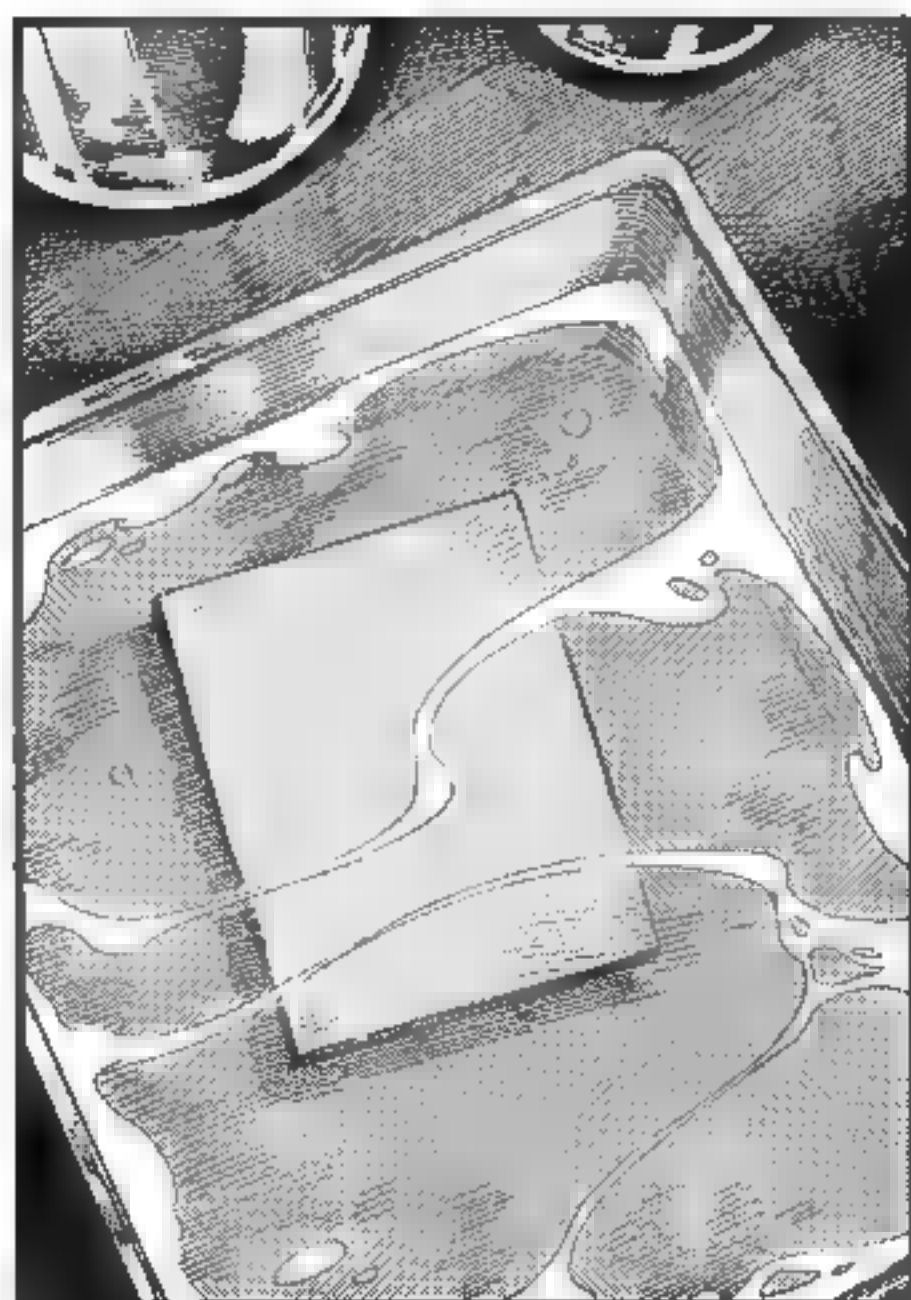
IN ANY CASE,
I REMIXED
ALL THE
LIQUIDS FROM
SCRATCH.

PERHAPS
SOMETHING
ODD WAS
MIXED
IN? OR
THE HEAT
CAUSED
IT TO GO
BAD.



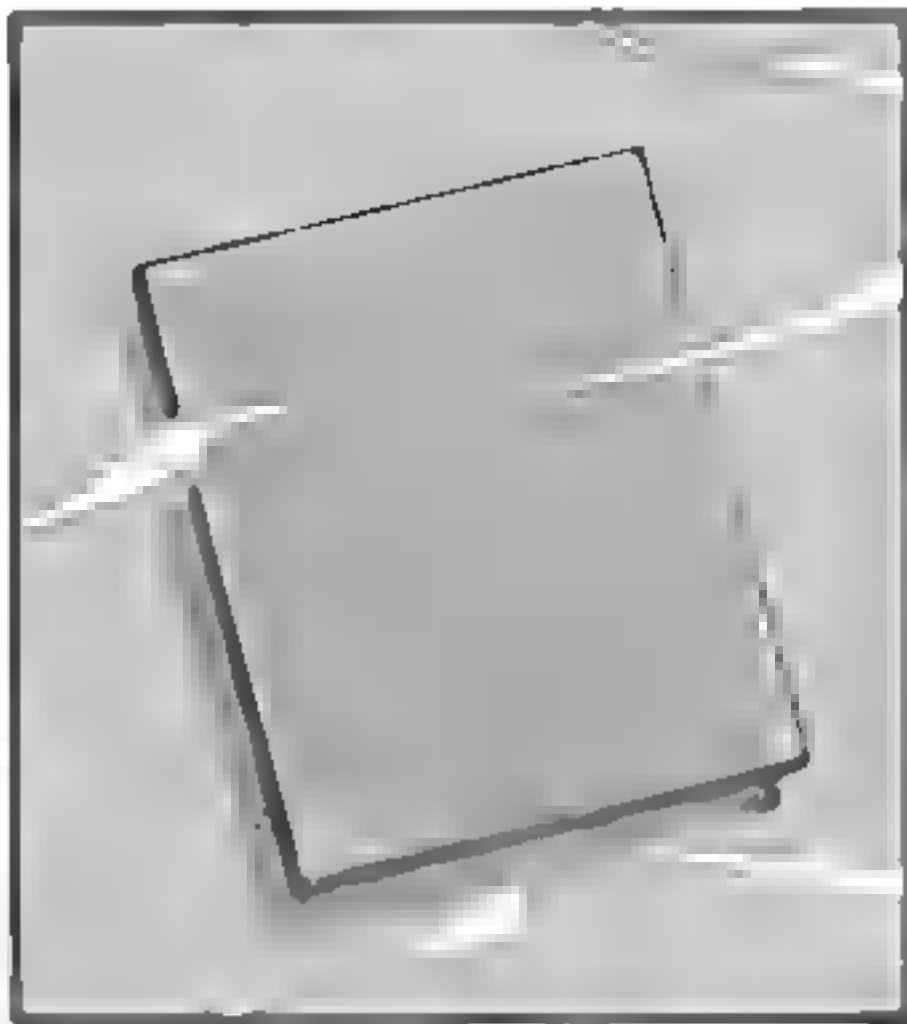
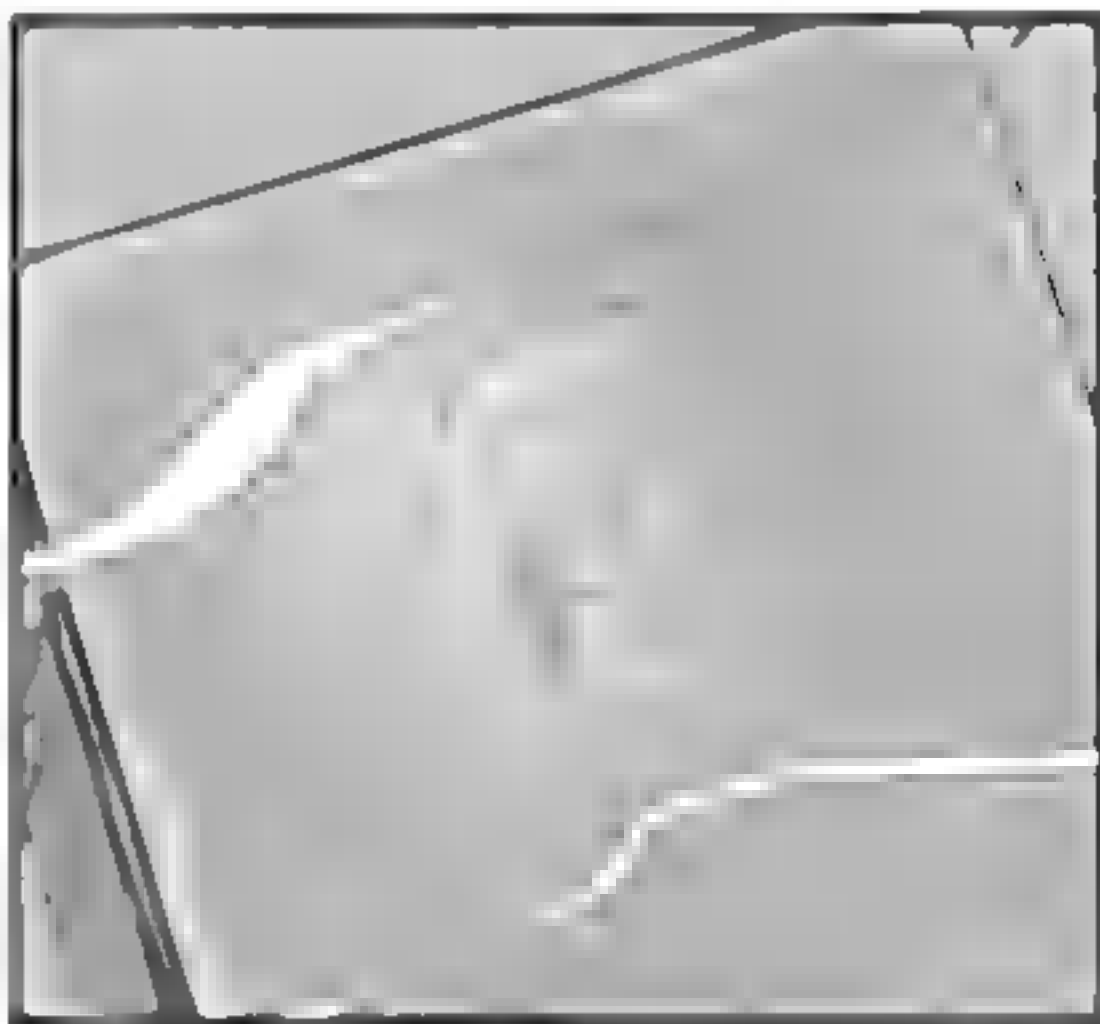
I CANNOT
FIND A
FLAW IN THE
CAMERA
OR OTHER
INSTRU-
MENTS.

SO IT MUST
BE IN THE
CHEMICALS.



I THINK
THIS
TIME IT
SHOULD
WORK
OUT.









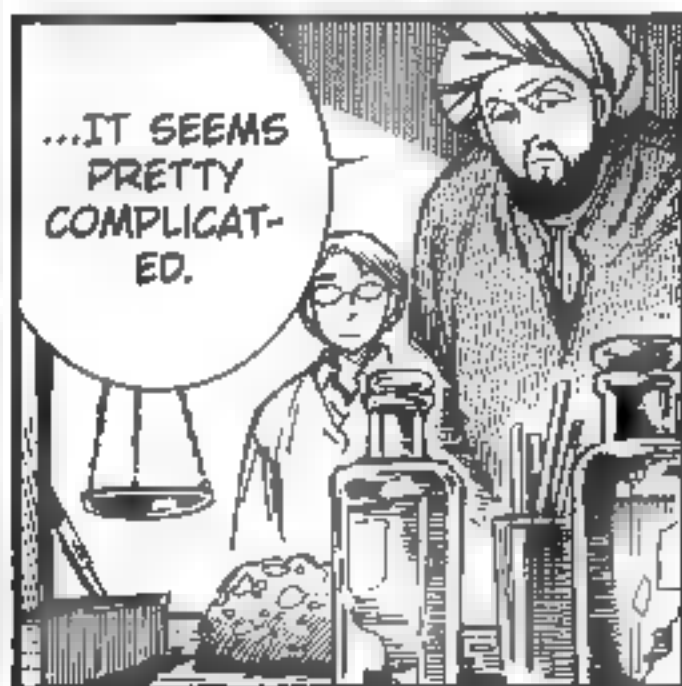




WHAT?
OF ME?



SHALL I
TAKE ONE
OF YOU?



...IT SEEMS
PRETTY
COMPLICAT-
ED.



EH!?

OF
ME?



GOOD
IDEA!

I'M
TAKING
ONE OF
YOU!



I'M
HOPING TO
GET PHOTO-
GRAPHS
OF AS MANY
PEOPLE AS
POSSIBLE.



A CHANGE
OF CLOTHES
WON'T
REALLY
IMPROVE
YOU!

JUST
STAND
THERE!

YOU
MEAN
IN THIS
GETUP?

I'M
TAKING
IT. STAND
OVER
THERE.

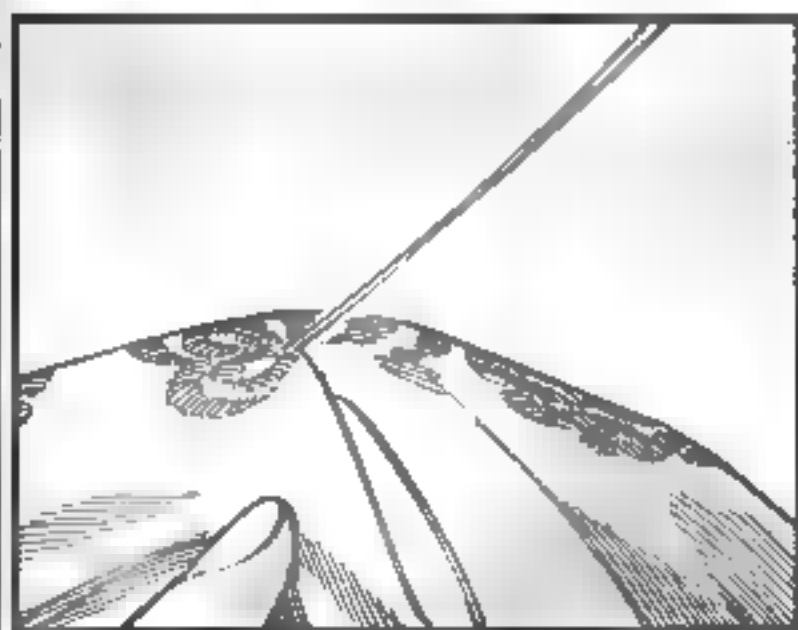


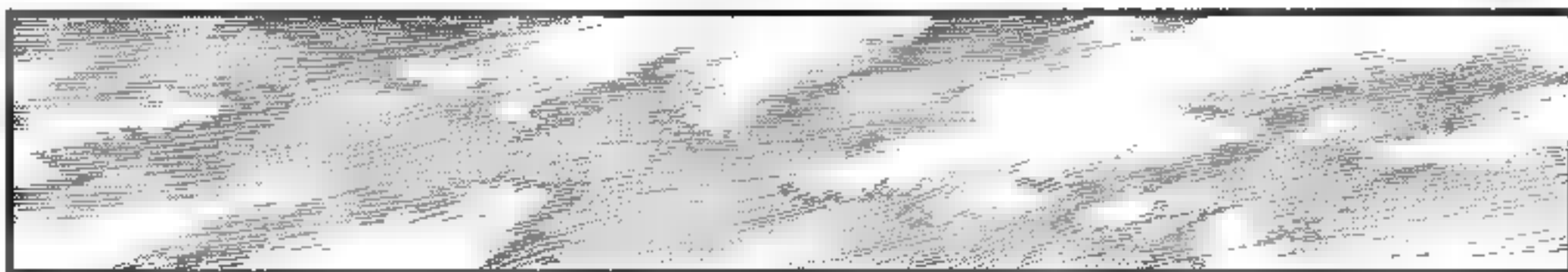
I
PROMISED
YOUR
MOTHER I'D
BRING YOU
HOME WITH
ME.

SHE'LL
NEVER BE
SATISFIED
UNLESS I
BRING BACK
AT LEAST ONE
PHOTOGRAPH
OF YOU!



◆
CHAPTER 74
THE DAYS
FROM
◆











SIX DAYS
PRIOR TO
DEPARTURE...





NO
FIGHTING!

CUT IT
OUT!



STOP IT!
STOP IT!
STOP IT!



HEY! NO
BITING!

YOU
GET
BACK!



I'M
SAYING
EXCHANGE
IT FOR
ANOTHER
CAMEL!

I'M NOT
ASKING
FOR OUR
MONEY
BACK!



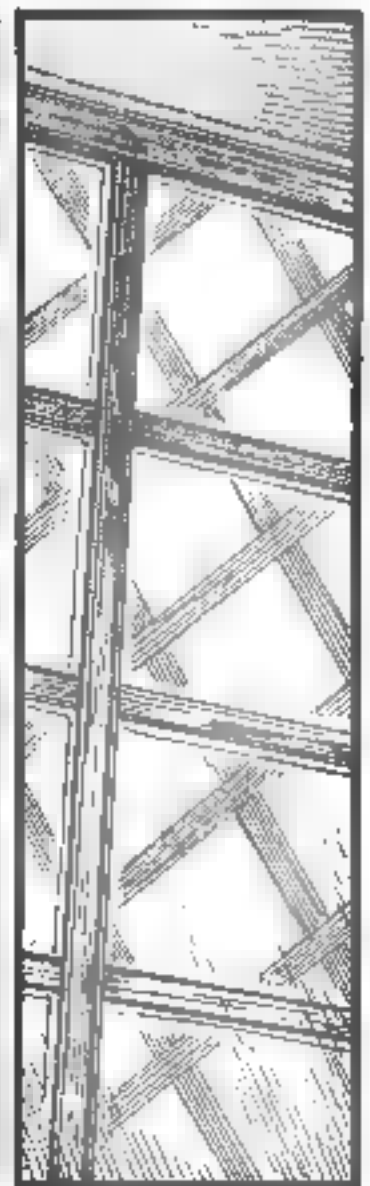
BUT WHAT
CAN WE DO
NOW?

THEY'VE
ALREADY
BEEN
BOUGHT.



SO
WHAT I'M
SAYING
IS!

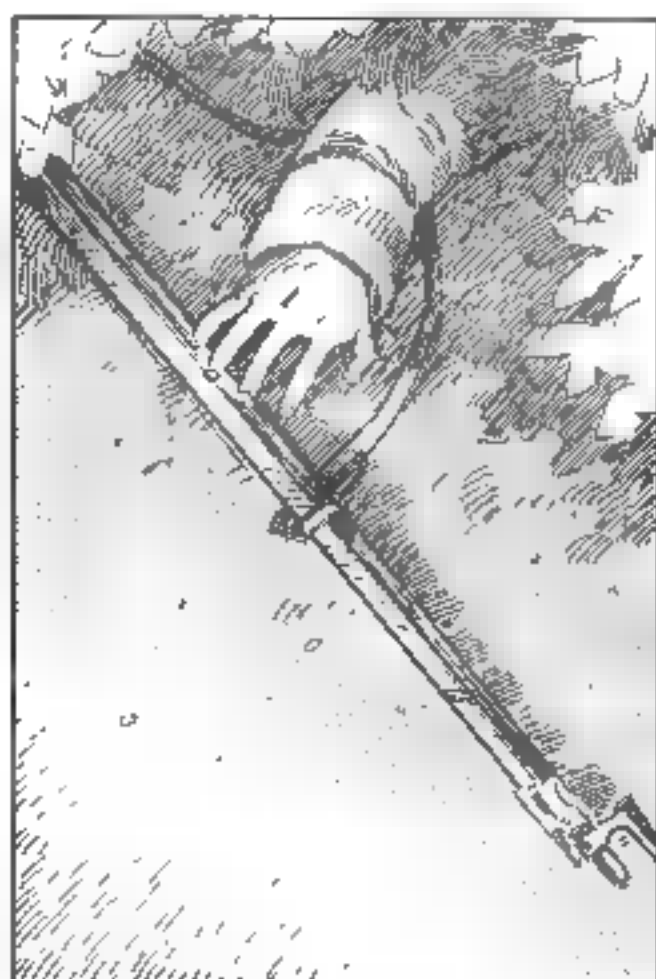
THESE TWO
CAMELS JUST
DON'T GET
ALONG!







FIVE
DAYS
PRIOR...







MY
DAUGHTERS
ARE ALL
MARRIED.

MY
WIFE HAS
PLENTY OF
FAMILY LIVING
NEARBY.



DON'T
YOU HAVE
FAMILY?



THEY FULLY
UNDERSTAND
MY
POSITION.

SO
IT'S ALL
RIGHT.



HE
TRULY...

...SEEMS
TO HAVE
STEEL IN
HIM.

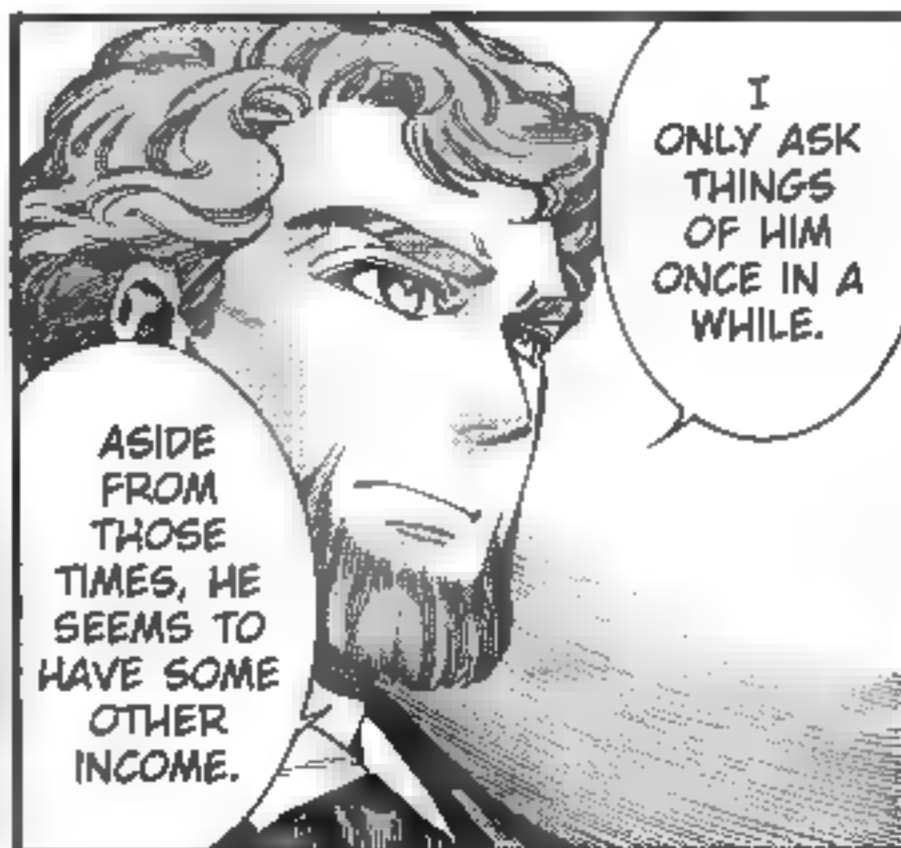


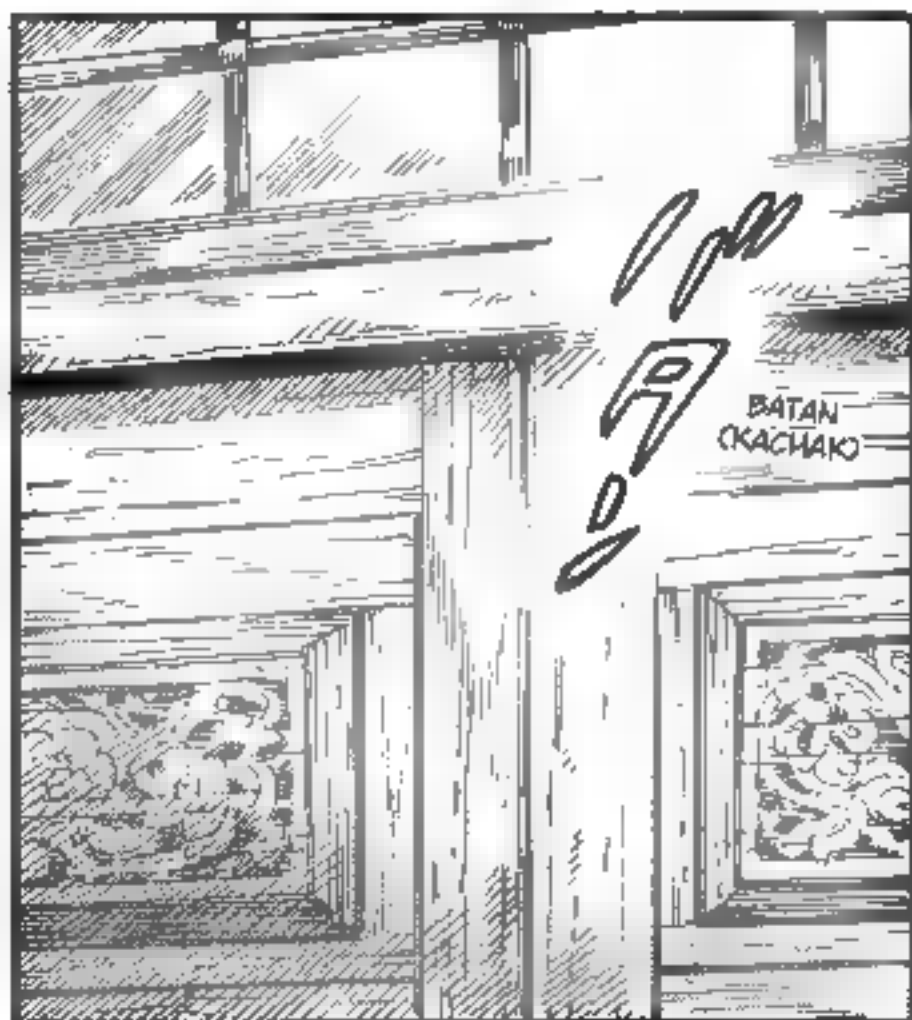
NOT EVEN
MONEY
FOR WATER
ON THE
JOURNEY.

HE KEEPS
SAYING HE'S
RETURNING A
DEBT, SO HE
WON'T ACCEPT
THE SLIGHTEST
PAYMENT.



HE MAY NOT
LOOK IT, BUT
THE MAN HAS
A STUBBORN
STREAK.







HOW MANY
ARE GOING
ON YOUR
JOURNEY?



.....



HOH?

A FINE
BEAST.



IF YOU
DON'T MIND
PARTING
WAYS AT
TEHRAN...

...I COULD
ACCOMPANY
YOU AND
ACT AS A
GUARD.



THAT'S
THREE.

LET'S SEE...
THERE'S ALI,
TALAS, AND
MYSELF.



ONLY
THREE OF
YOU.....?

THREE...?



I MUST
SPEAK
WITH MR.
HAWKINS
FIRST,
BUT...

THAT
WOULD
HELP US
A GREAT
DEAL!

IS THAT
SO?

OF
COURSE
YOU
MUST!

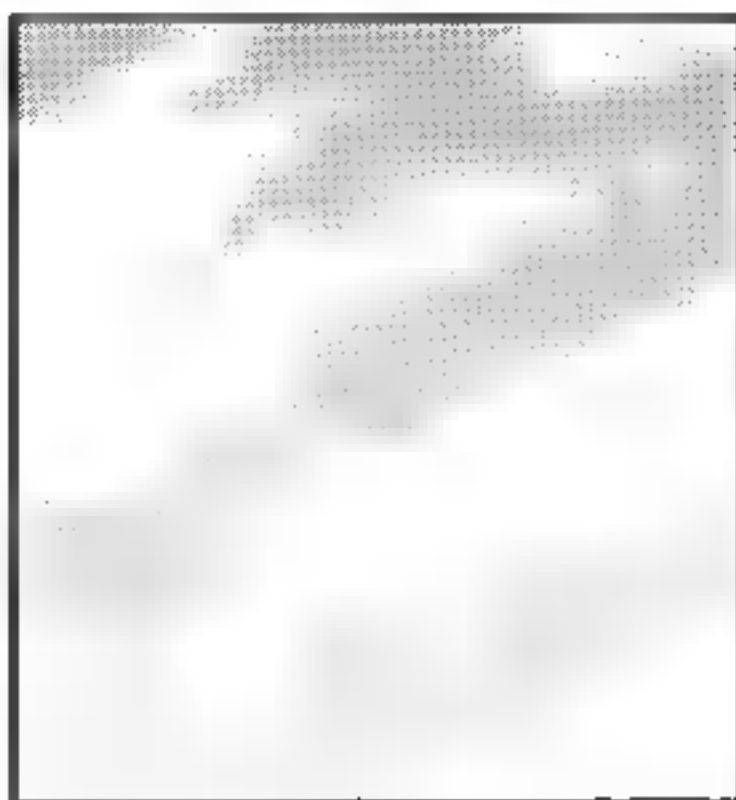
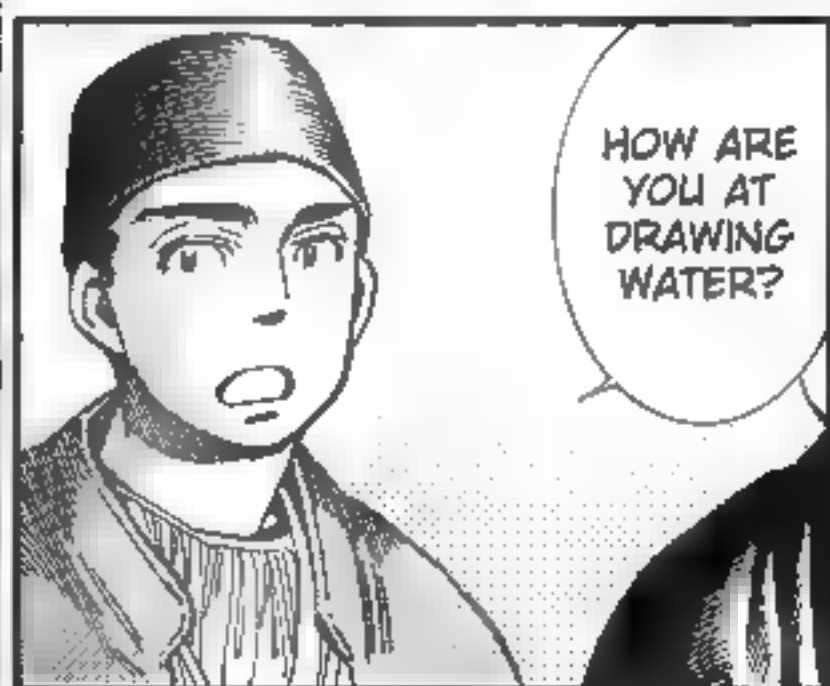


...BETWEEN
HERE AND
THERE.

I KNOW A
NUMBER
OF
PEOPLE...

THEY'D
BE
WILLING
TO PUT
US UP.







GOT IT!

ONCE THAT'S COMPLETELY FILLED, DO THIS ONE TOO.



ZABABABA (BLOOSH)



...RIGHT?

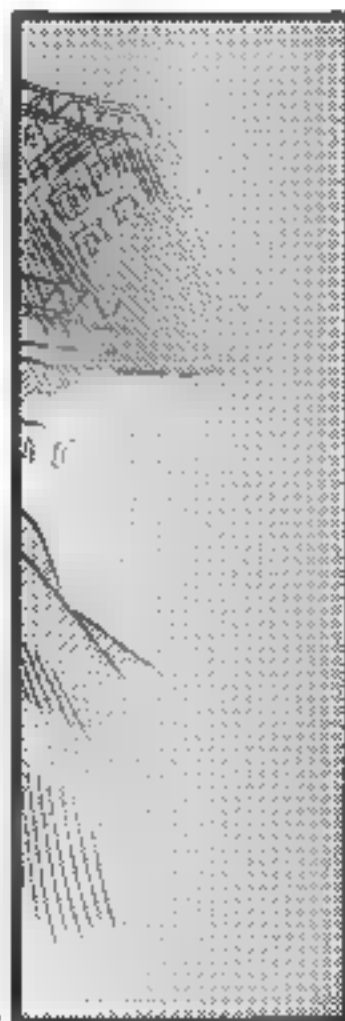
IF YOU SIT AROUND ALL THE TIME, YOU START ROTTING FROM THE REAR END UP...

QUACK!



WHEN I WORK, I GET MONEY...

...SO I DON'T UNDERSTAND THE PEOPLE WHO WANT TO DO NOTHING.





TWO
DAYS
PRIOR TO
DEPART-
TURE...

COME TO
THINK OF
IT, WHAT IS
HAPPENING
WITH THAT
WOMAN?



.....
YOU
MEAN
TALAS?



AND
MAYBE
SHE LIKES
IT BETTER
IN HER
ROOM.

THE WOMEN
HERE DON'T
COME TO SIT
WITH THE
MEN MUCH.

PERHAPS
THAT'S
THE
REASON.



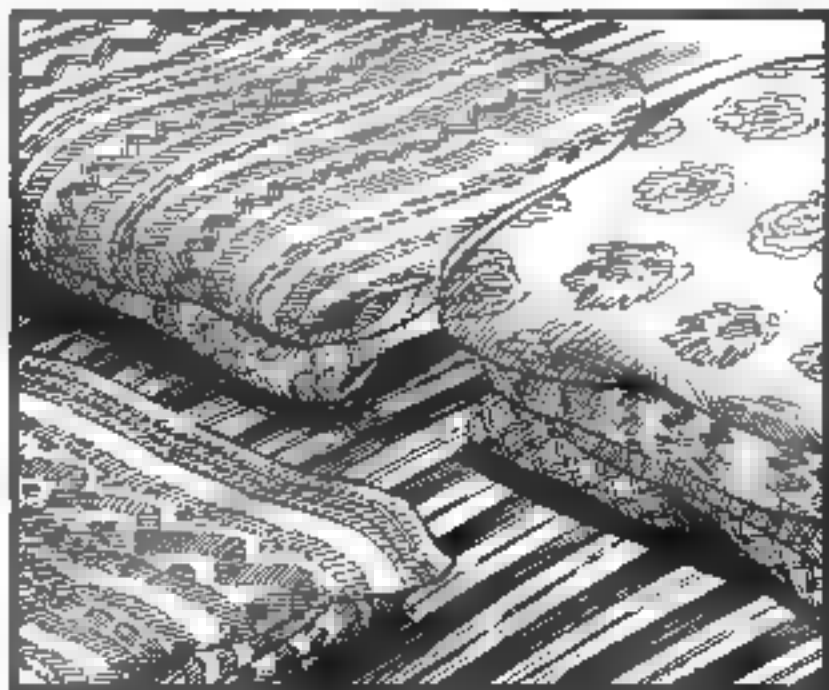
I HAVEN'T
SEEN HER
FOR QUITE
A WHILE.

YOU DID
TELL HER
YOU WERE
LEAVING,
RIGHT?

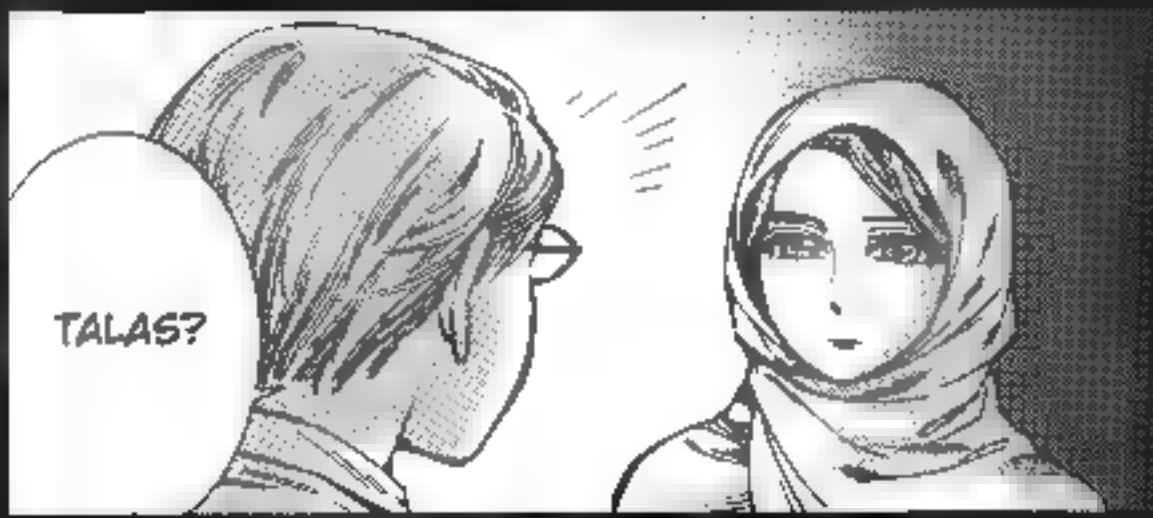


IT SEEMS
SHE HAS
SOMETHING
TO DO
BEFORE WE
LEAVE...

THE DAY
AFTER
TOMORROW,
RIGHT? YES,
I TOLD
HER.



ONE DAY
PRIOR...





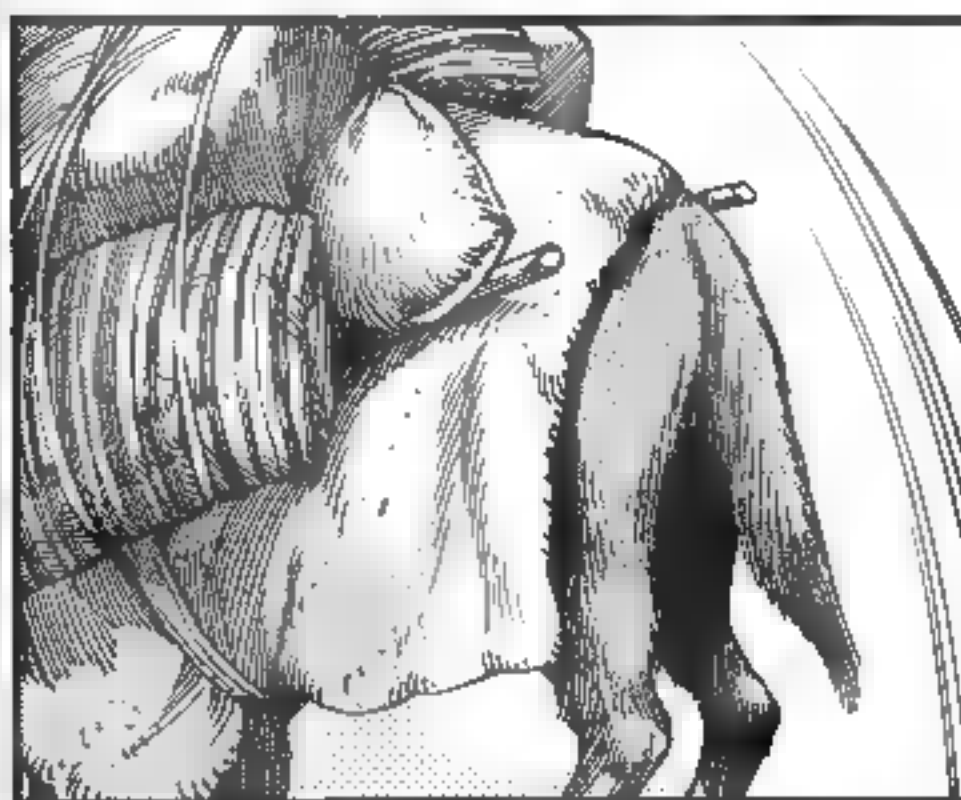
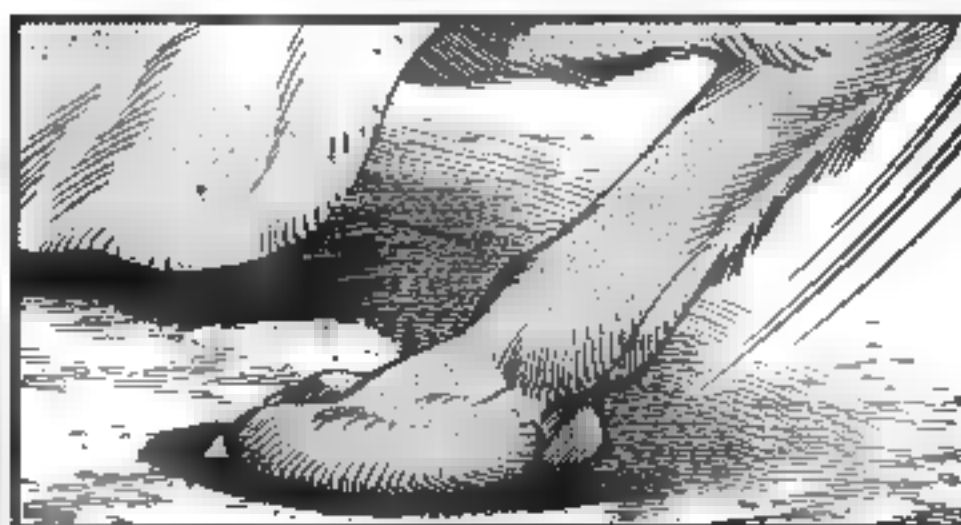


I
PRAY...

...IT WILL
BRING YOU
LUCK AND
SAFETY.



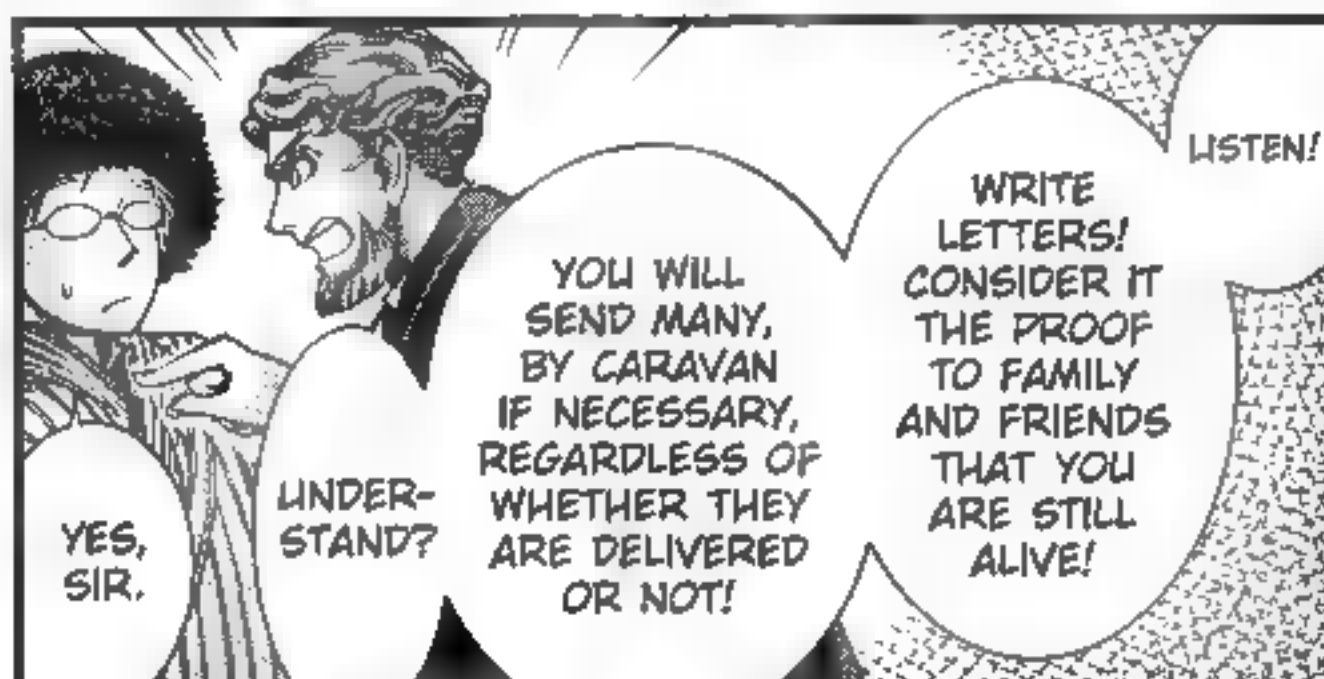




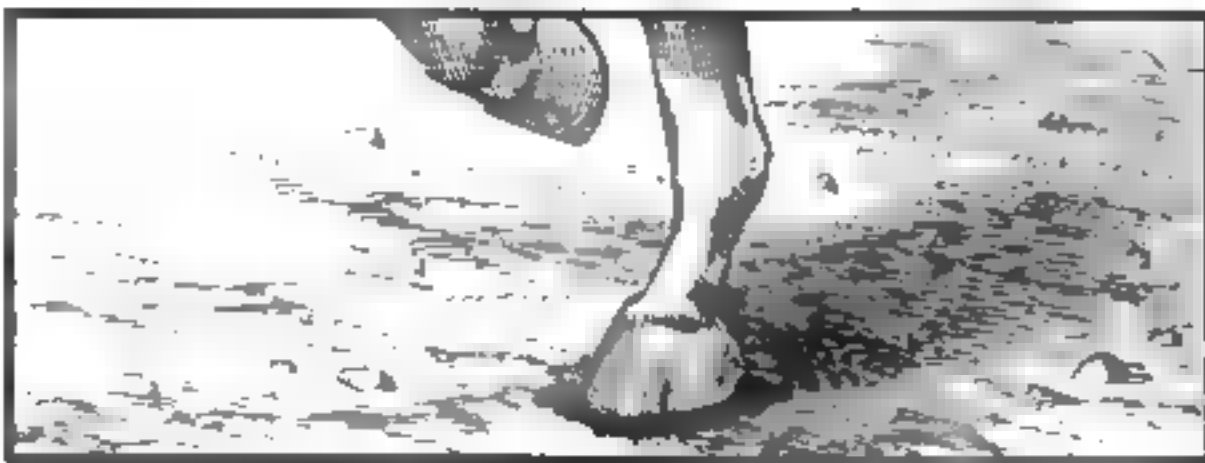
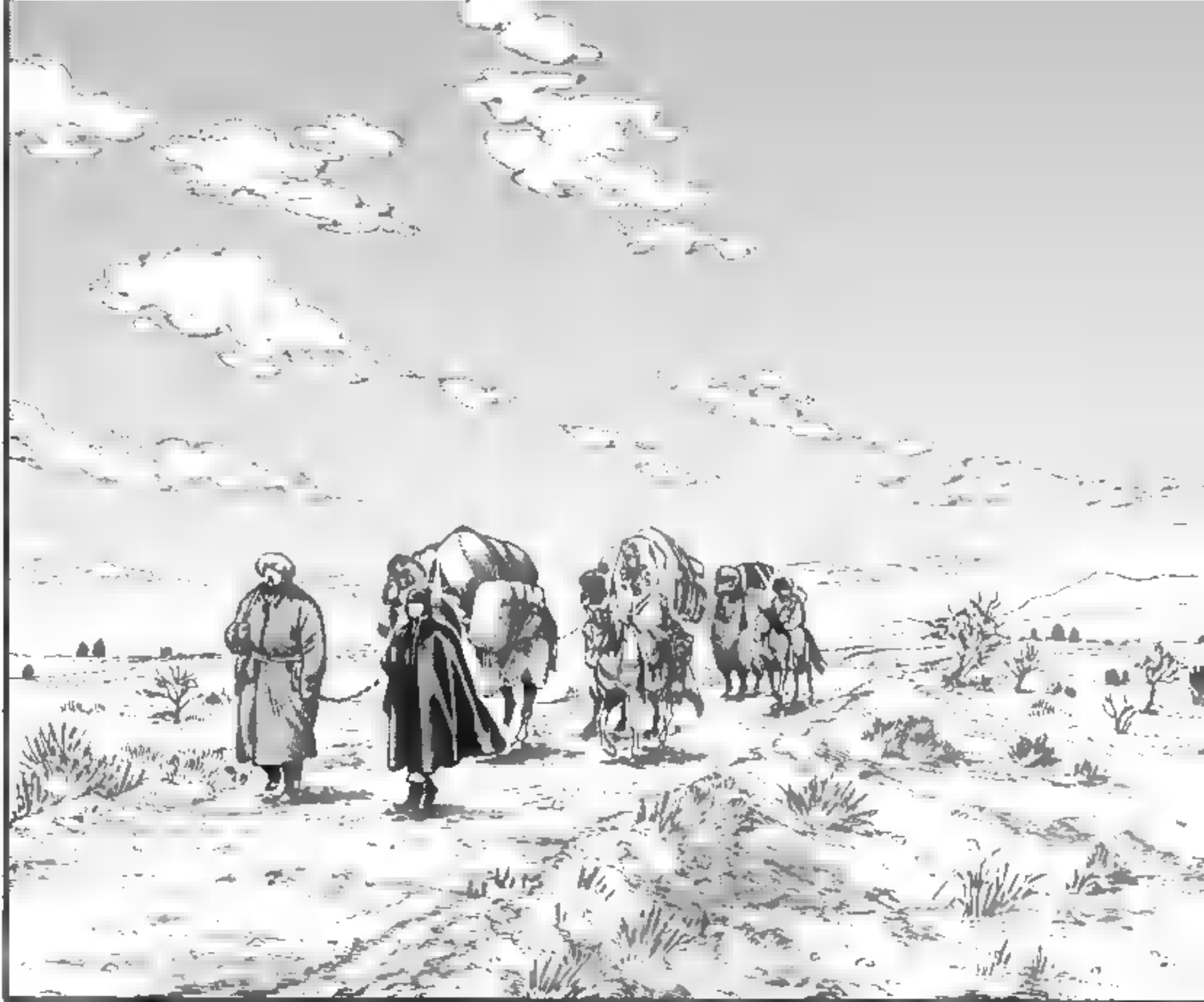


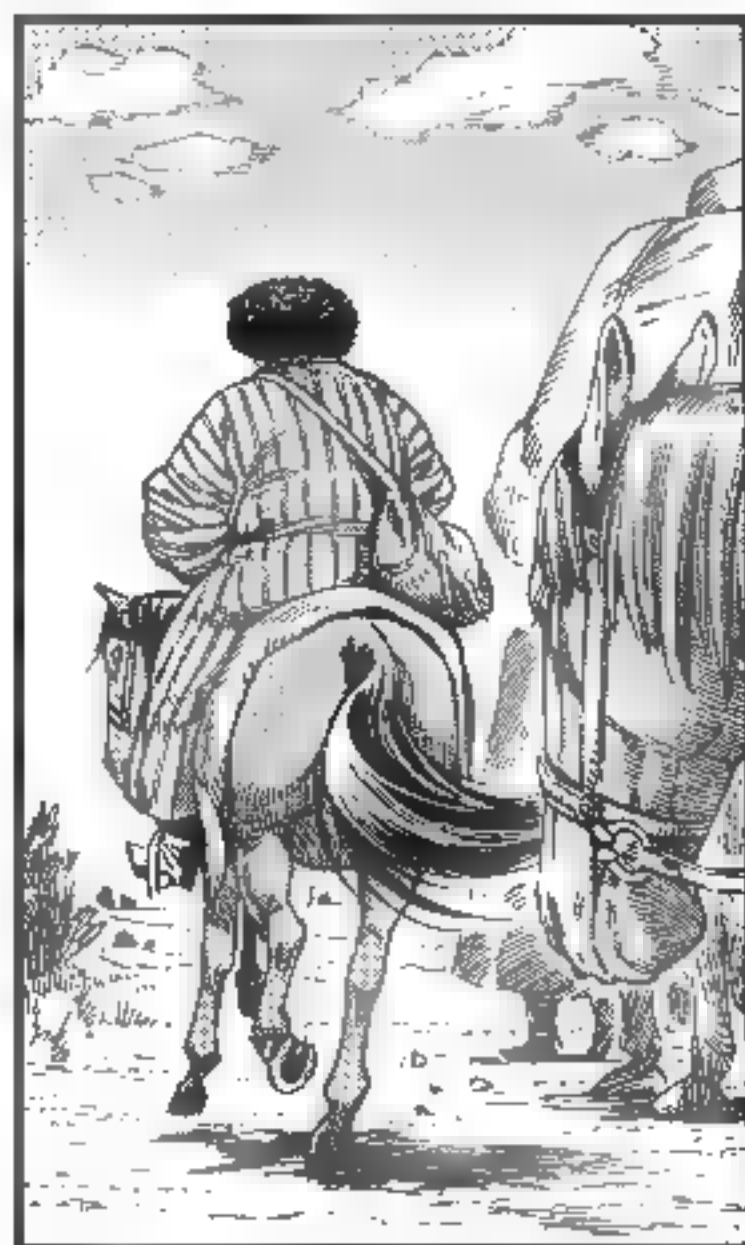
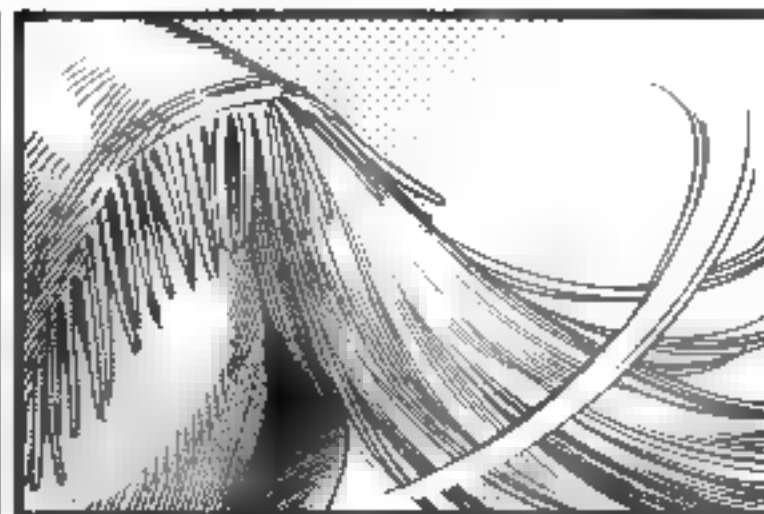


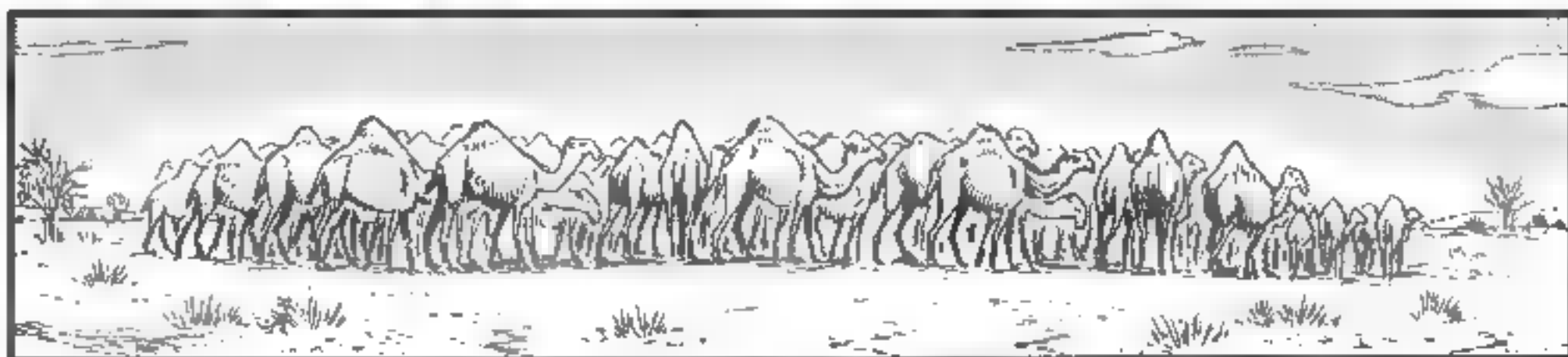
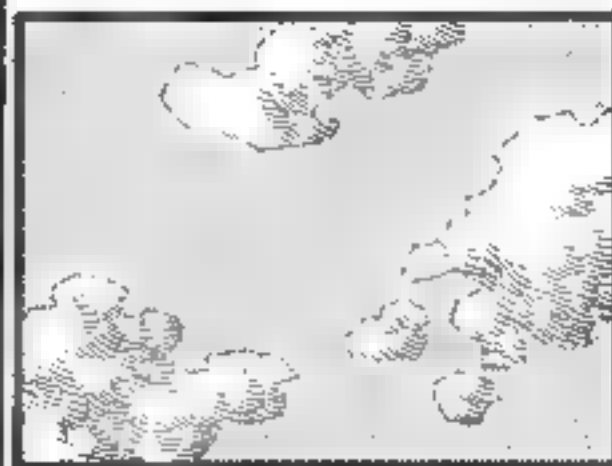




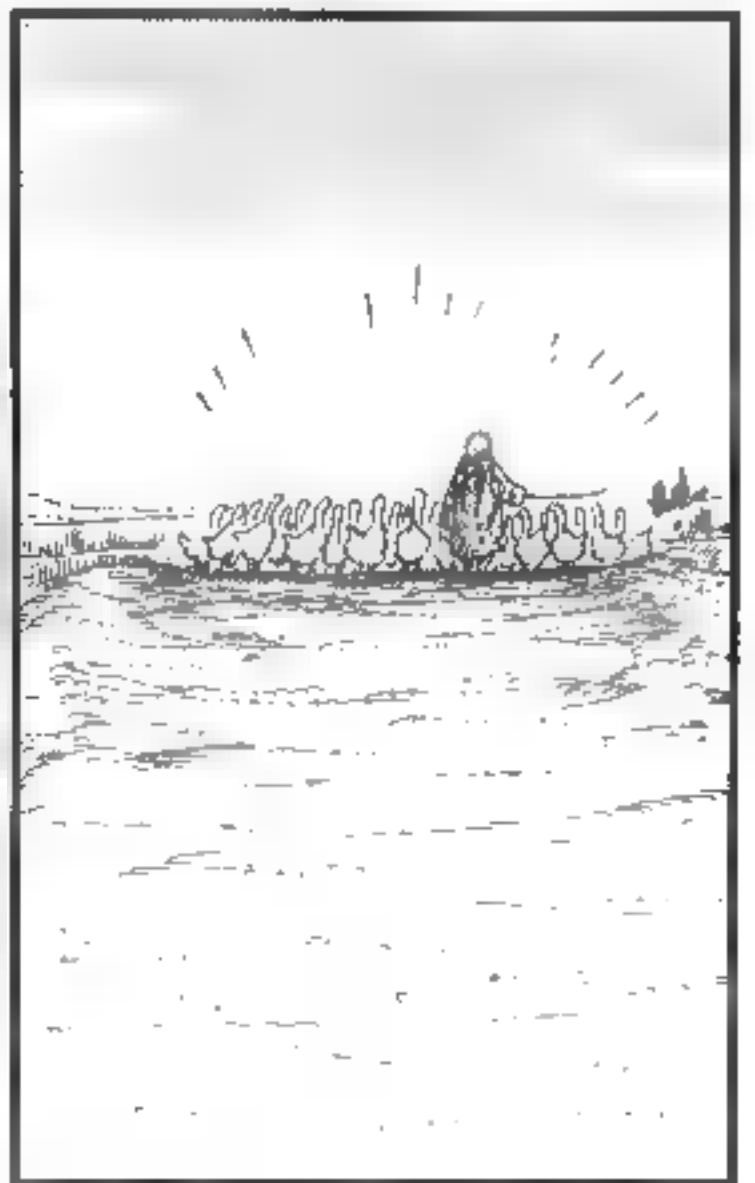
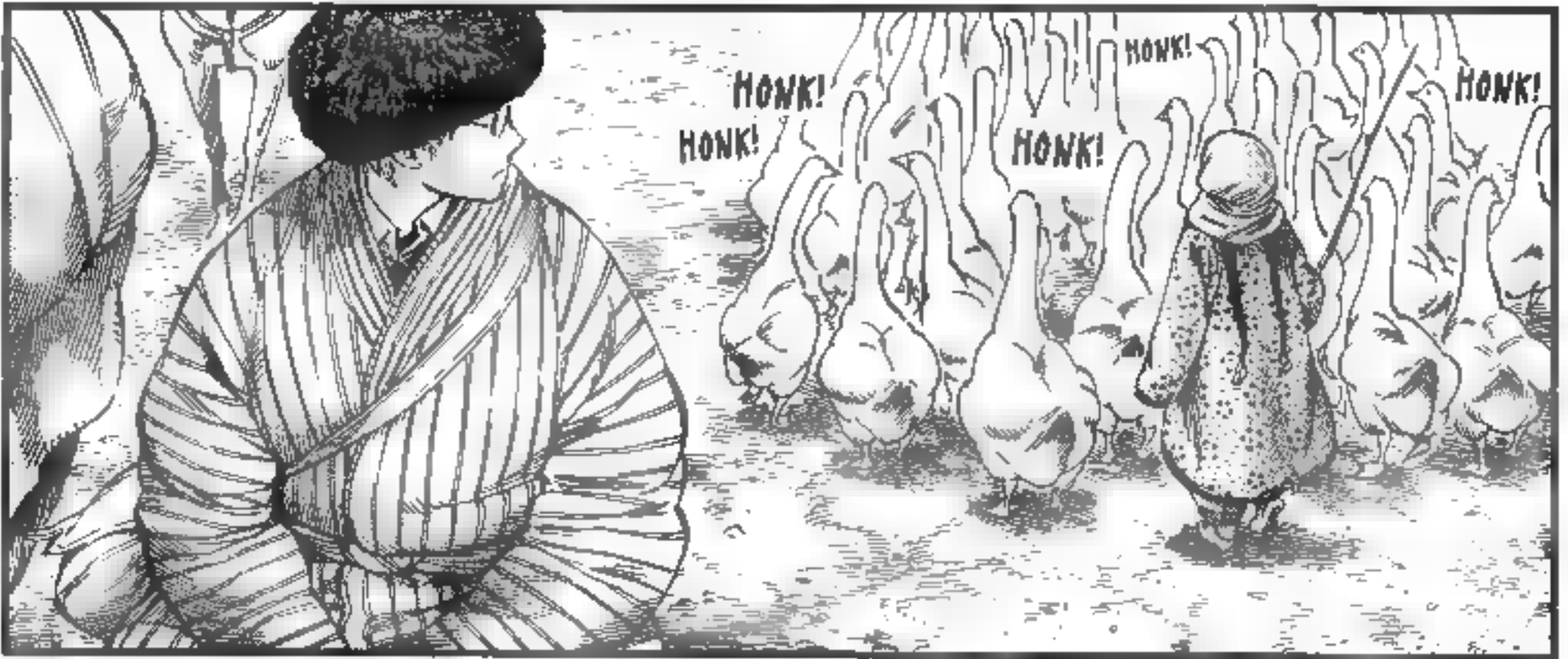
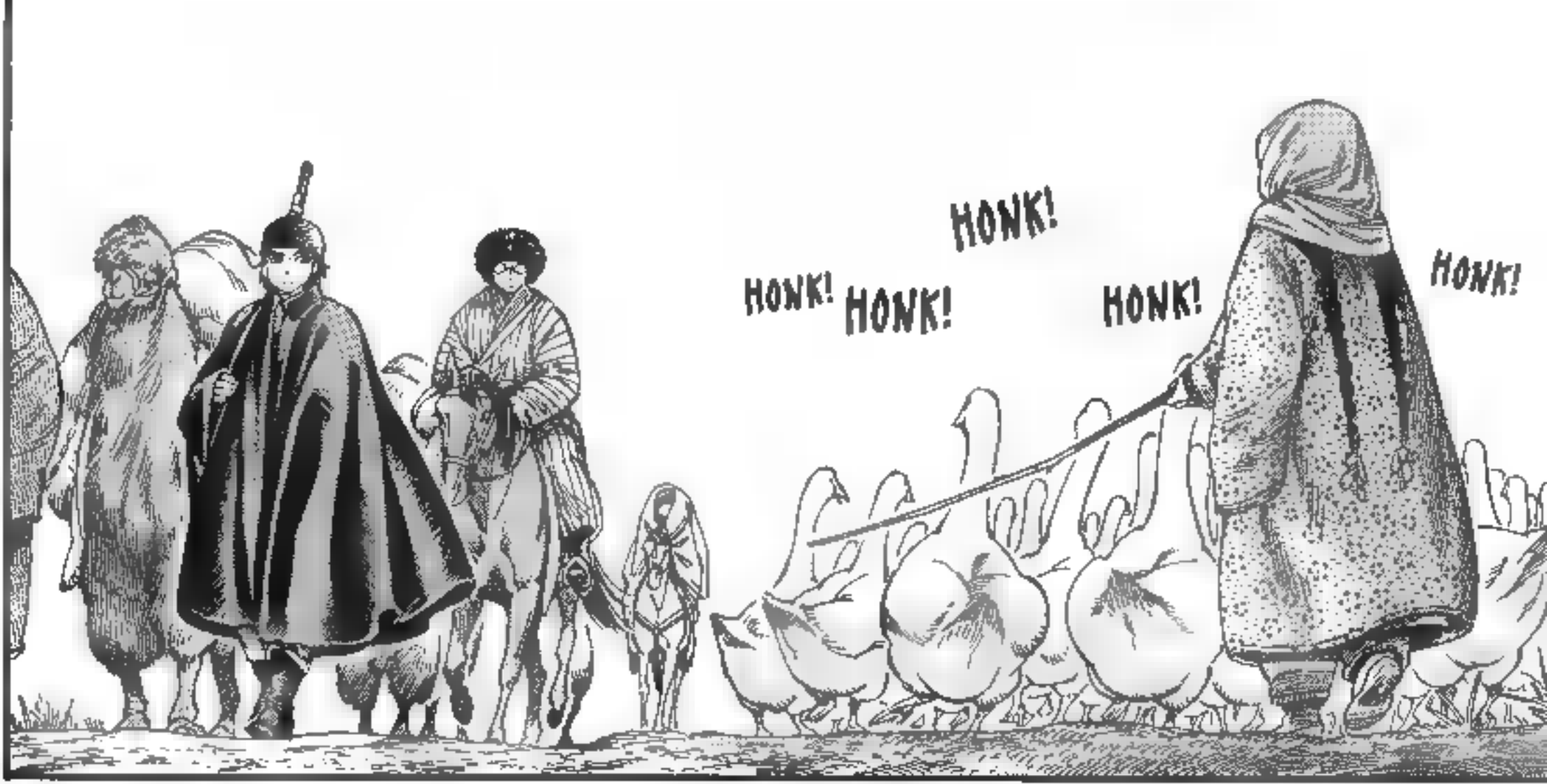
CHAPTER 75
TO THE SOUTH

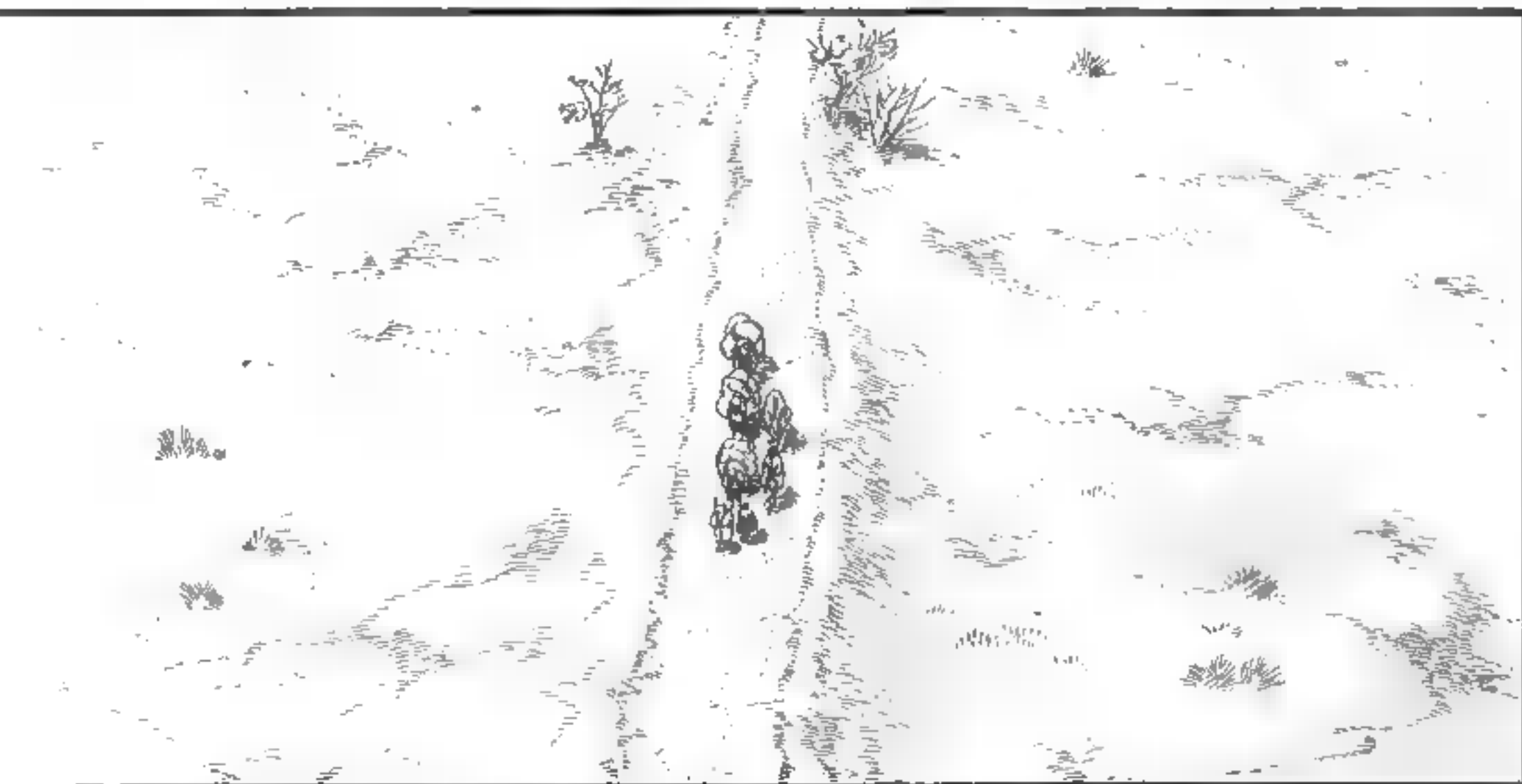
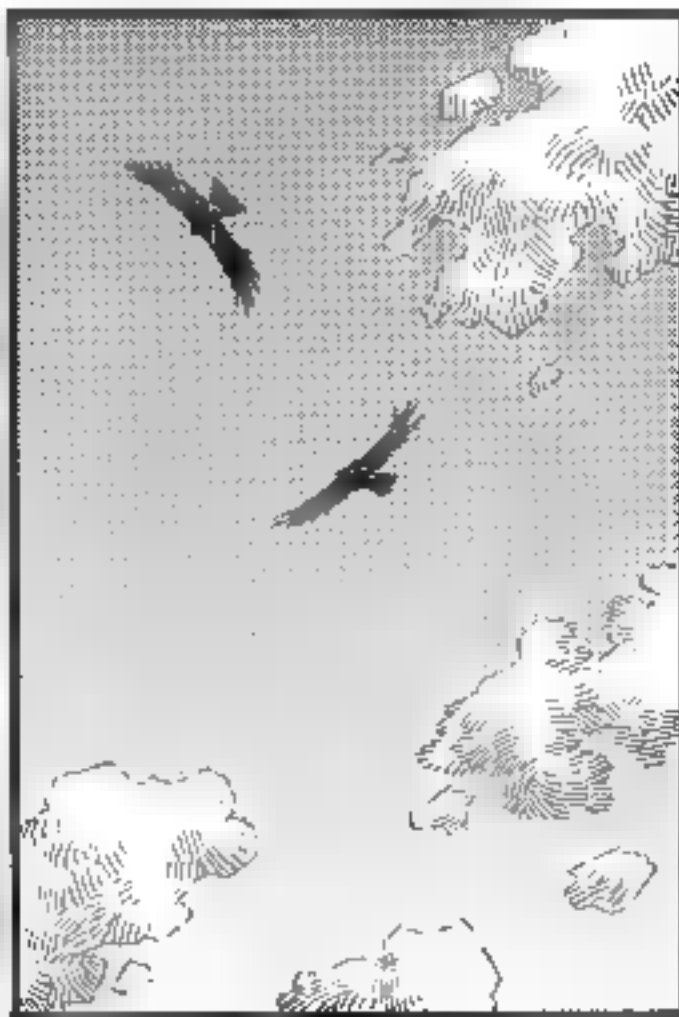




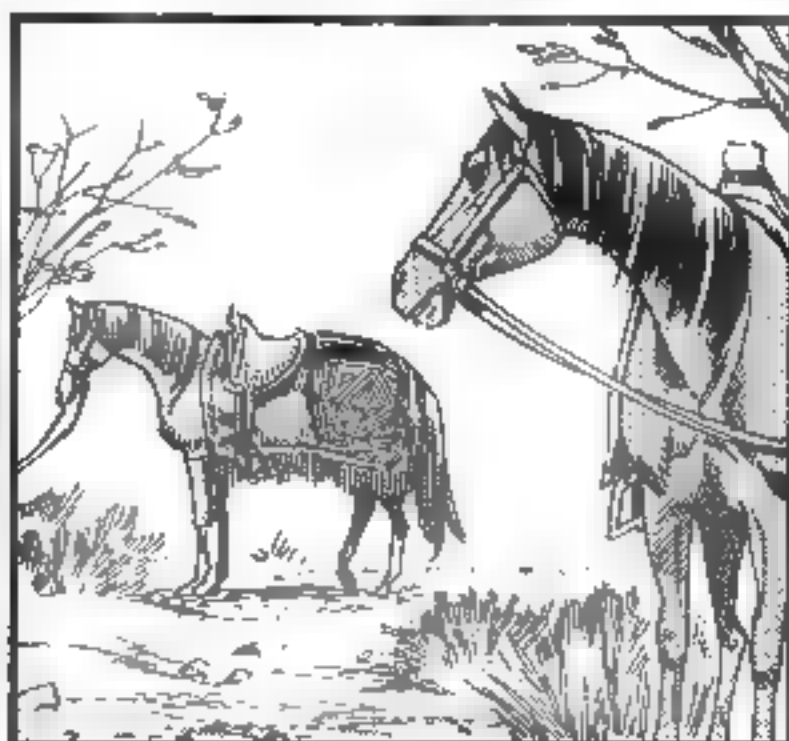


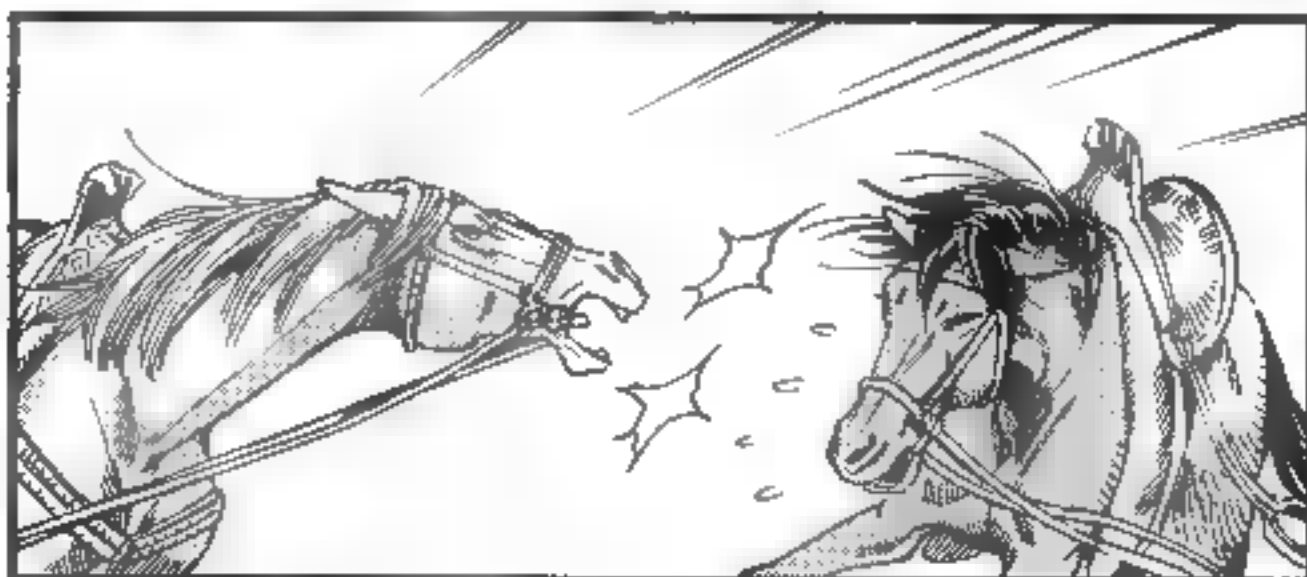




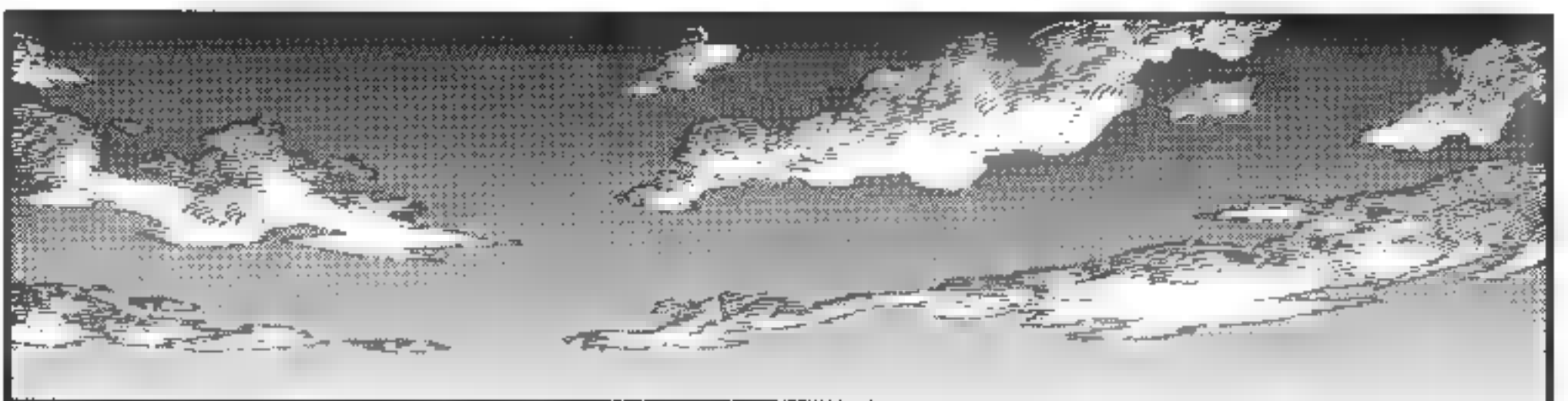














IT
REALLY IS
A HOUSE.

.....



THE
DOOR'S
BROKEN.

I'LL
MOVE
IT.

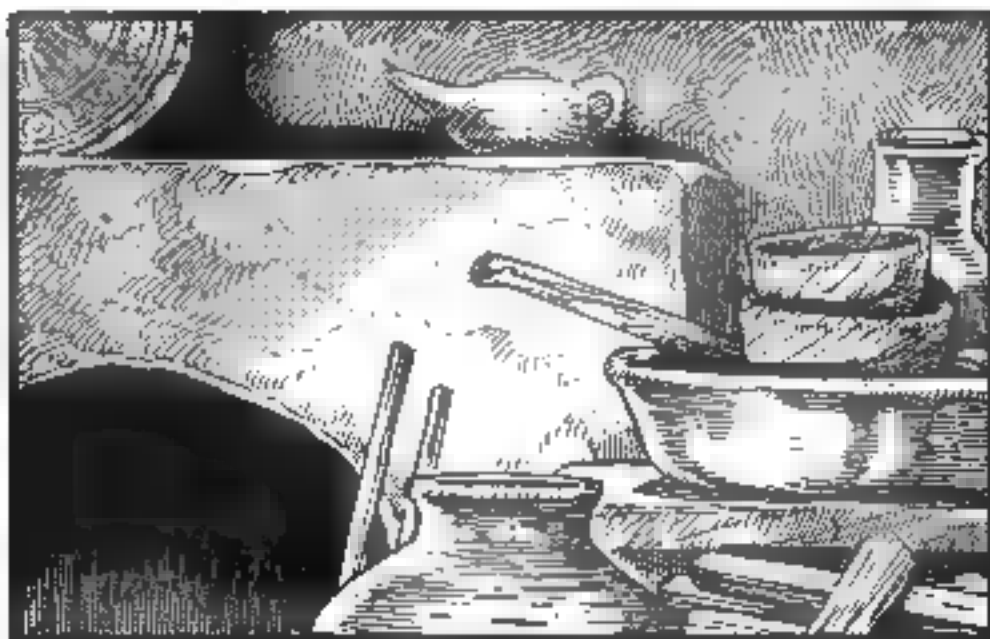


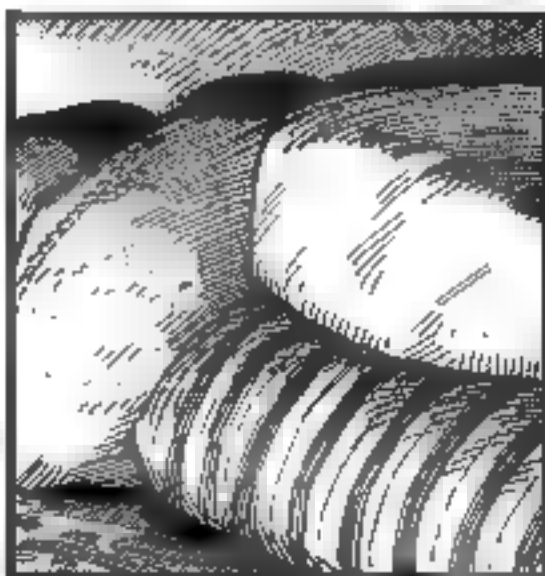
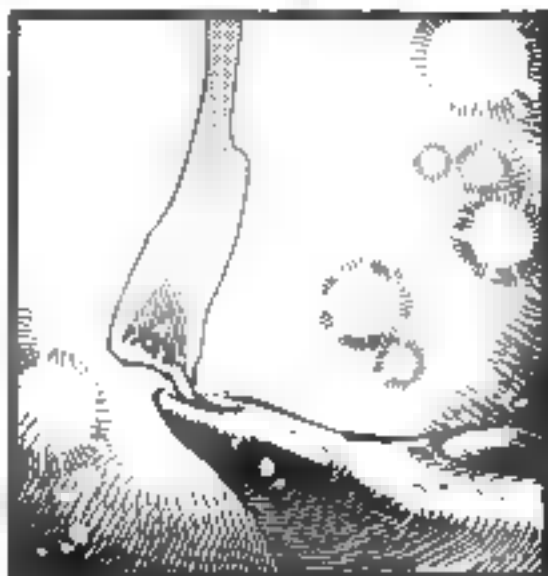
NOBODY
LIVES
HERE,
BUT...

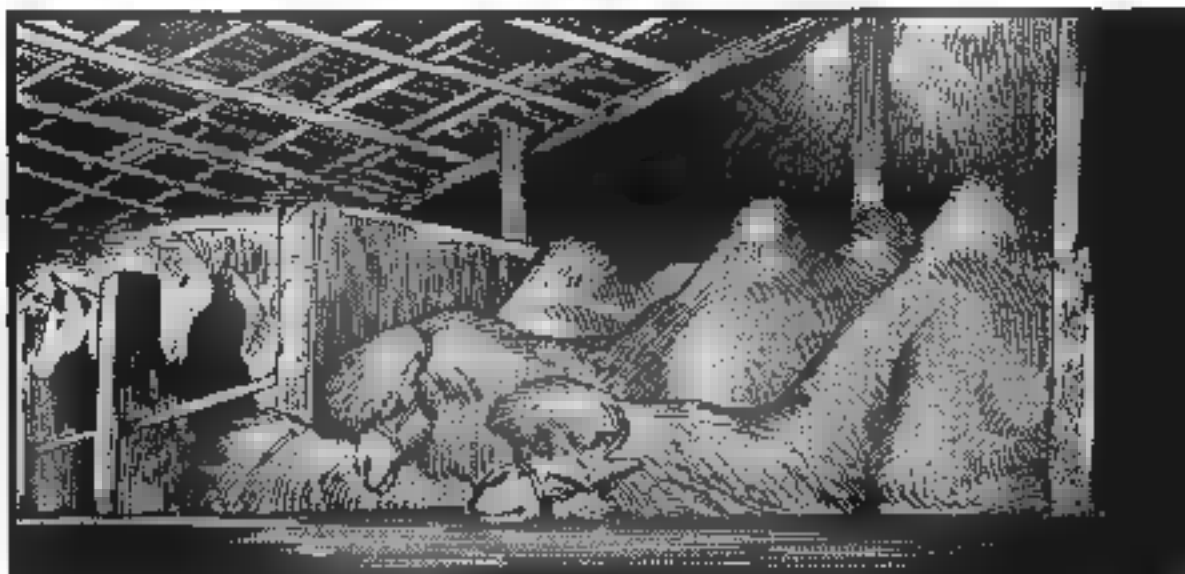
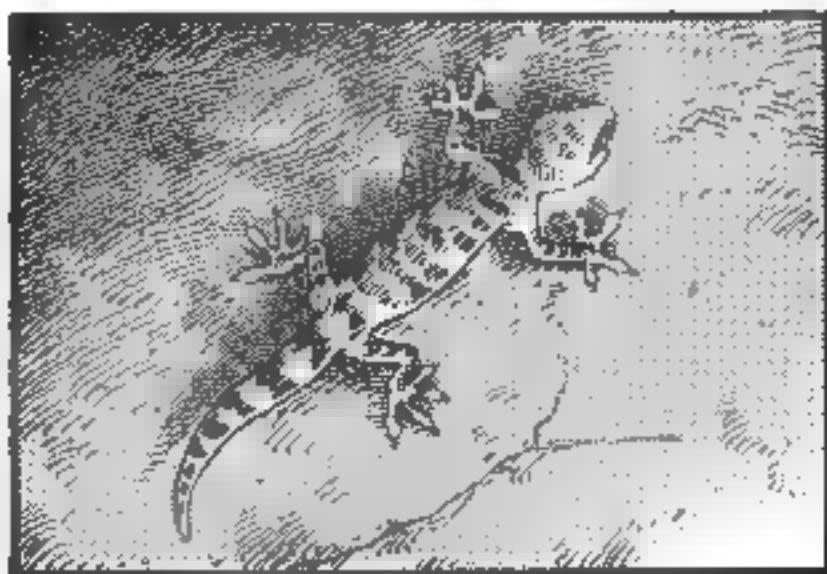
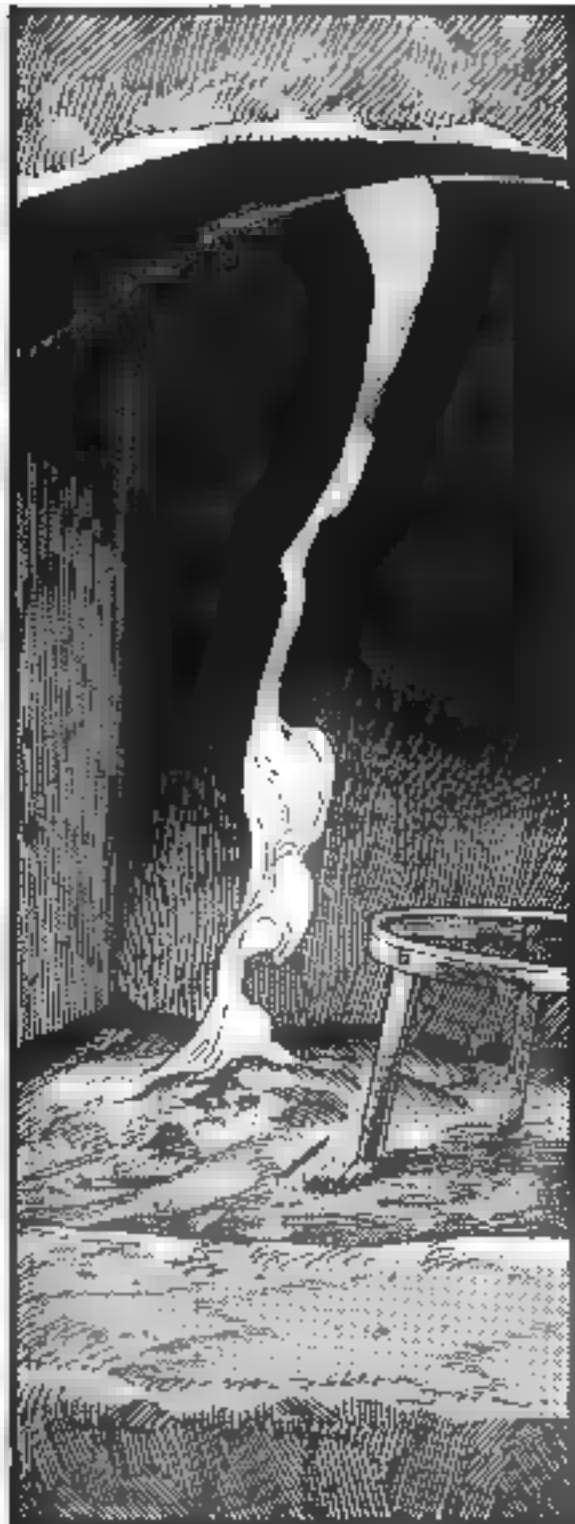
...WHAT
WITH ONE
THING AND
ANOTHER,
EVERYONE
USES THE
PLACE.

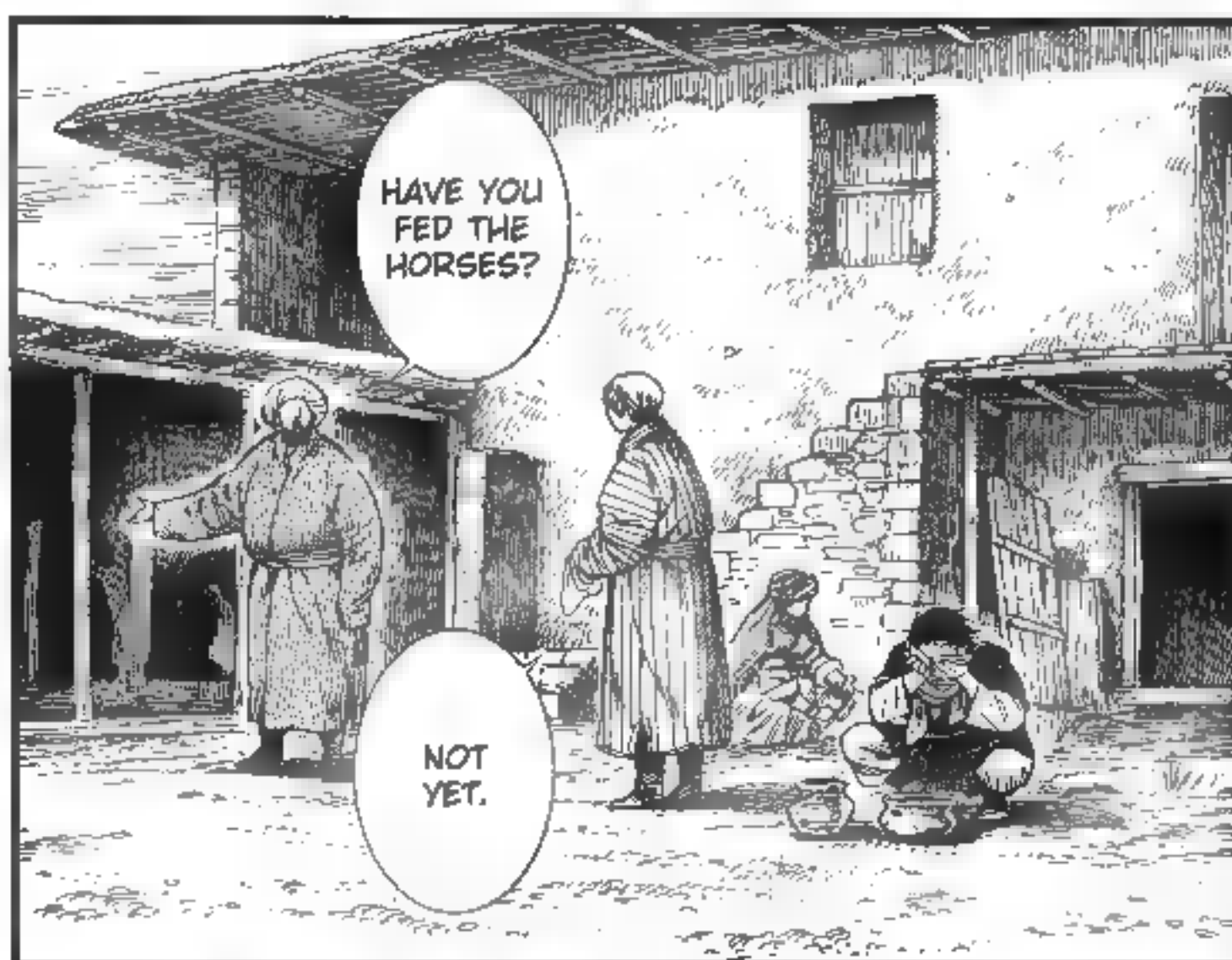
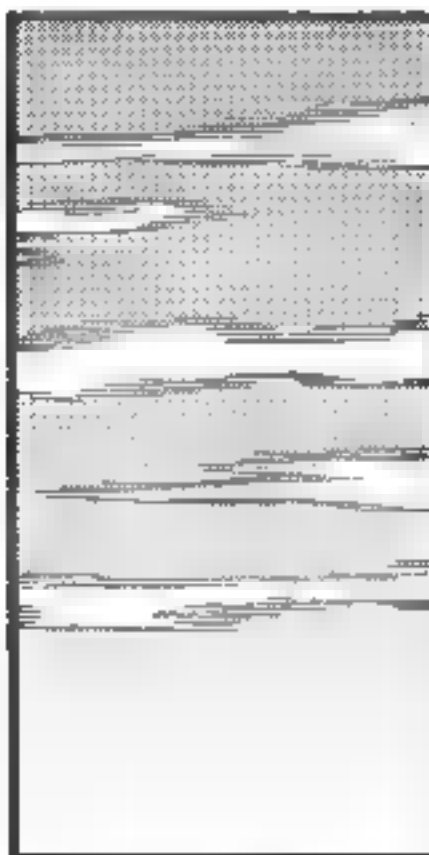


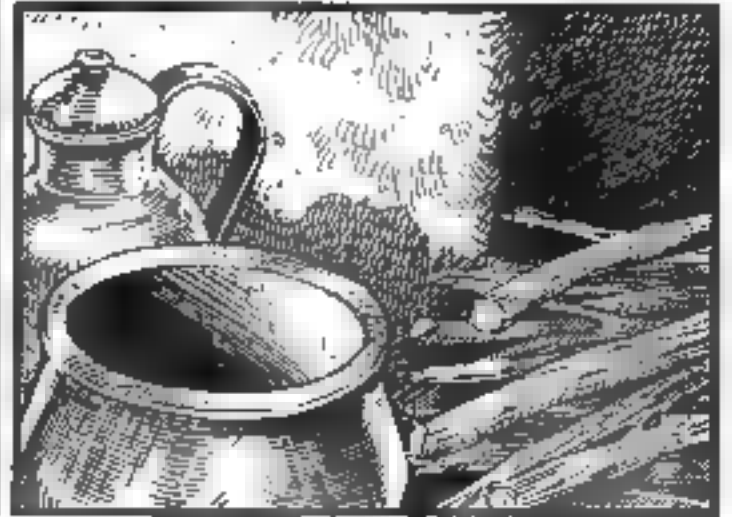
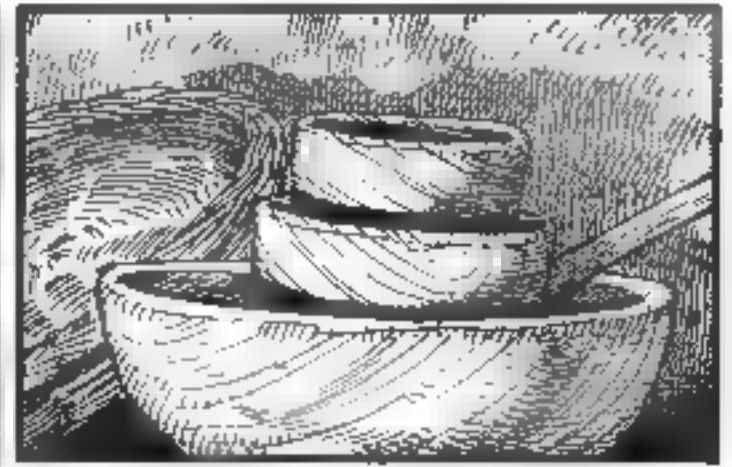
DOES NO
ONE LIVE
HERE?

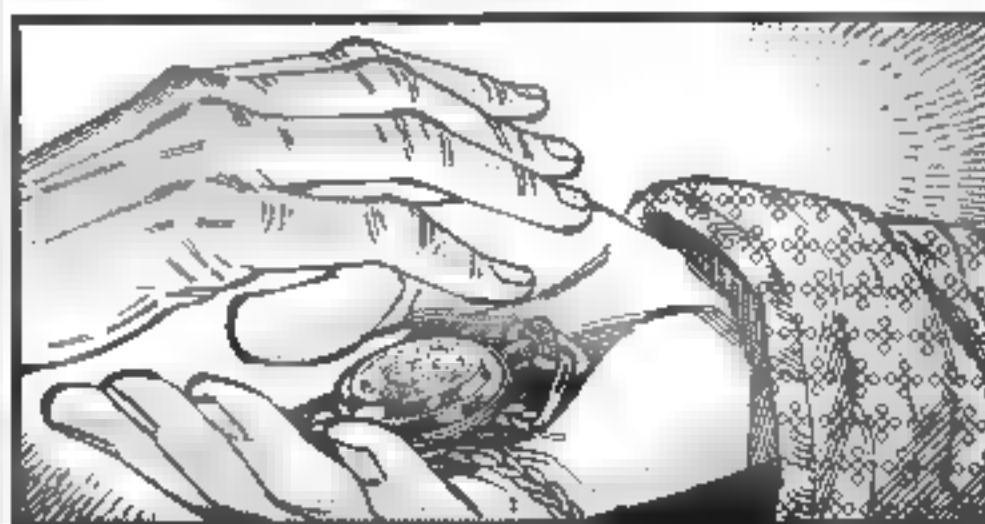






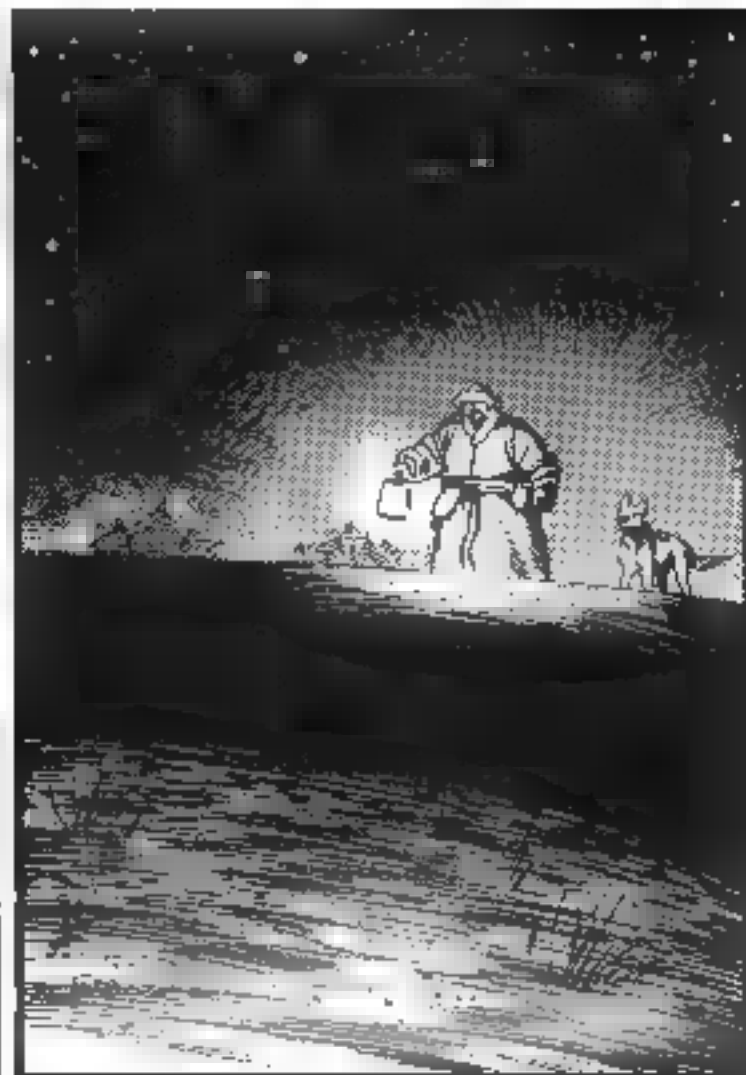






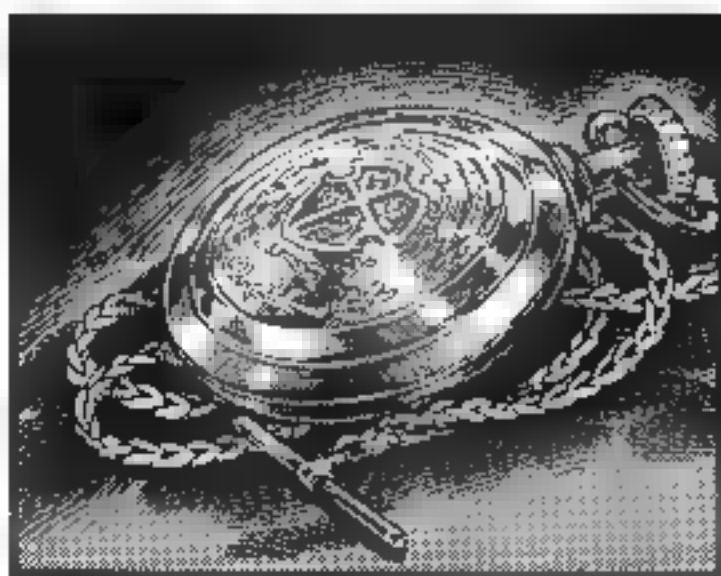


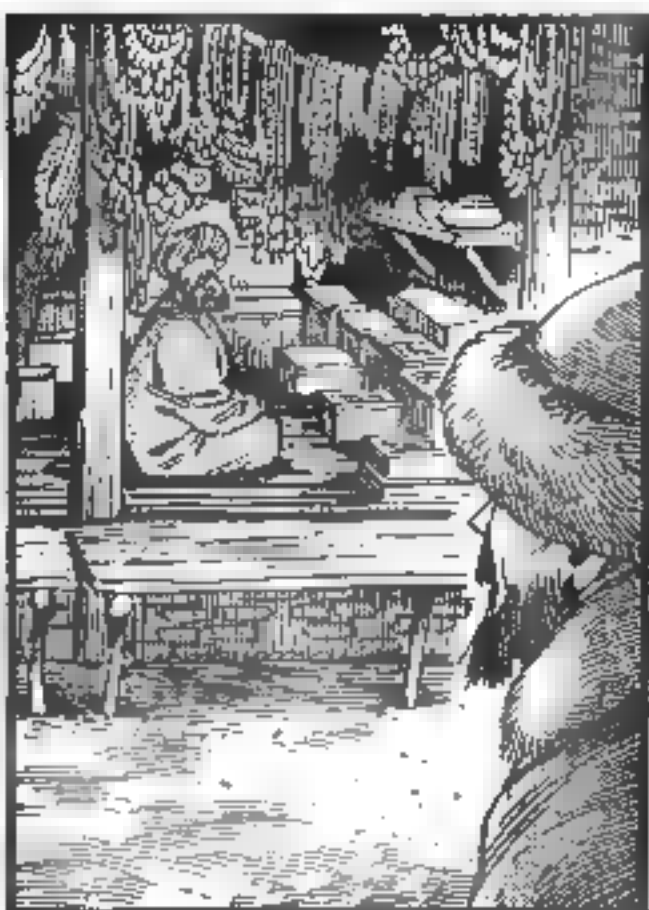
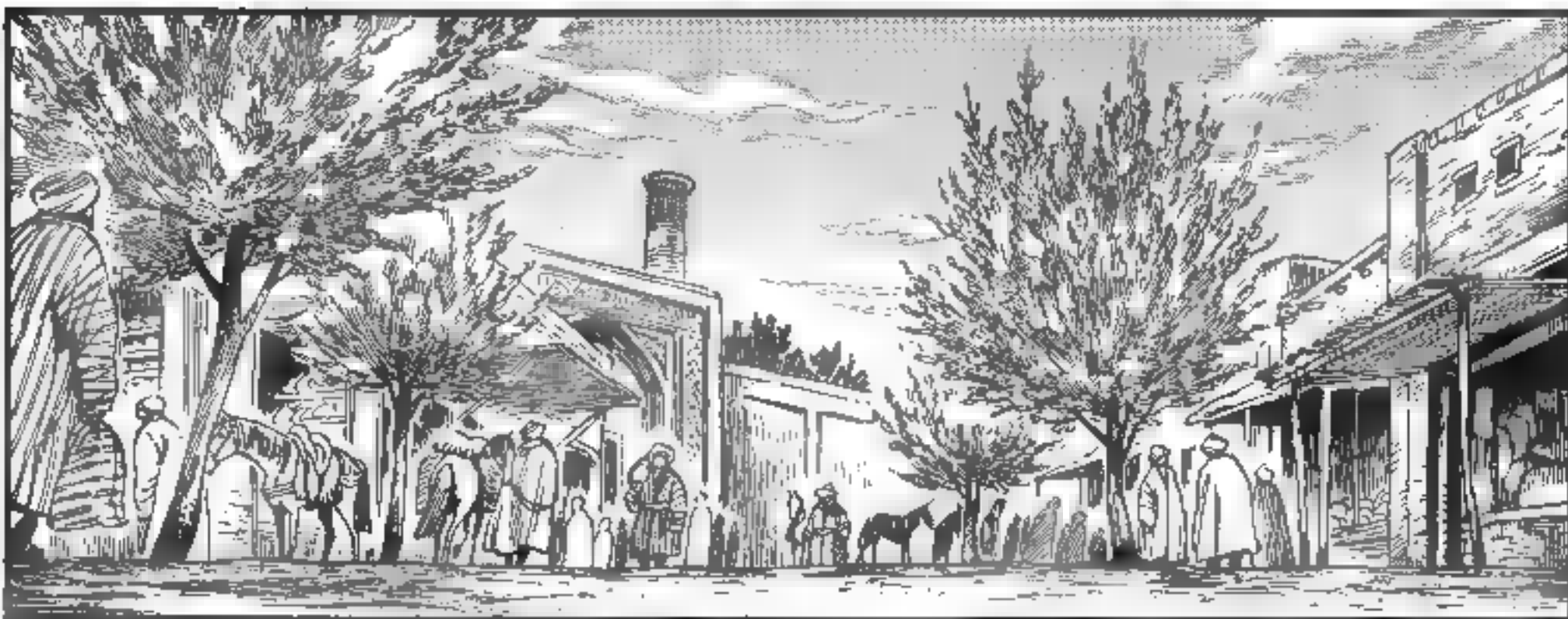
CHAPTER 76
WATCH





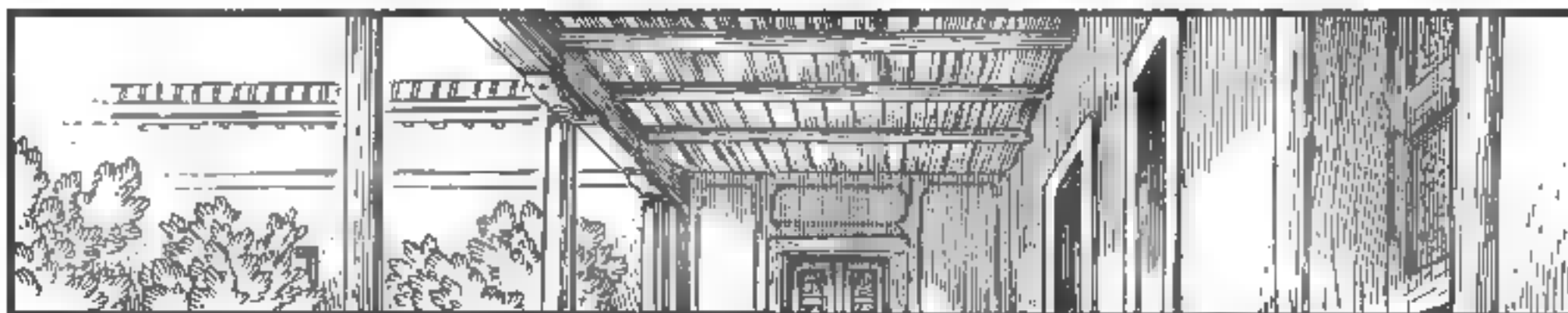


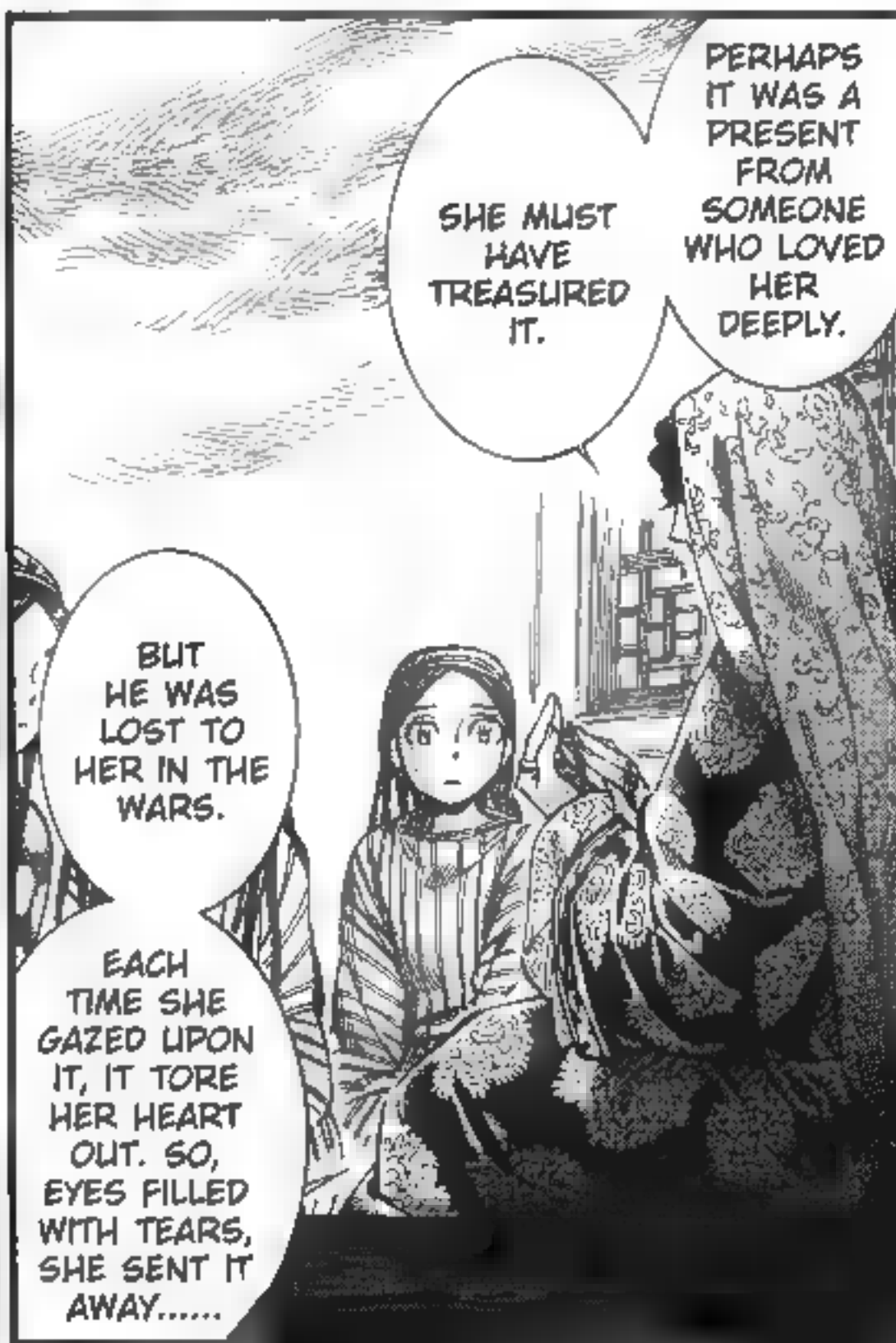
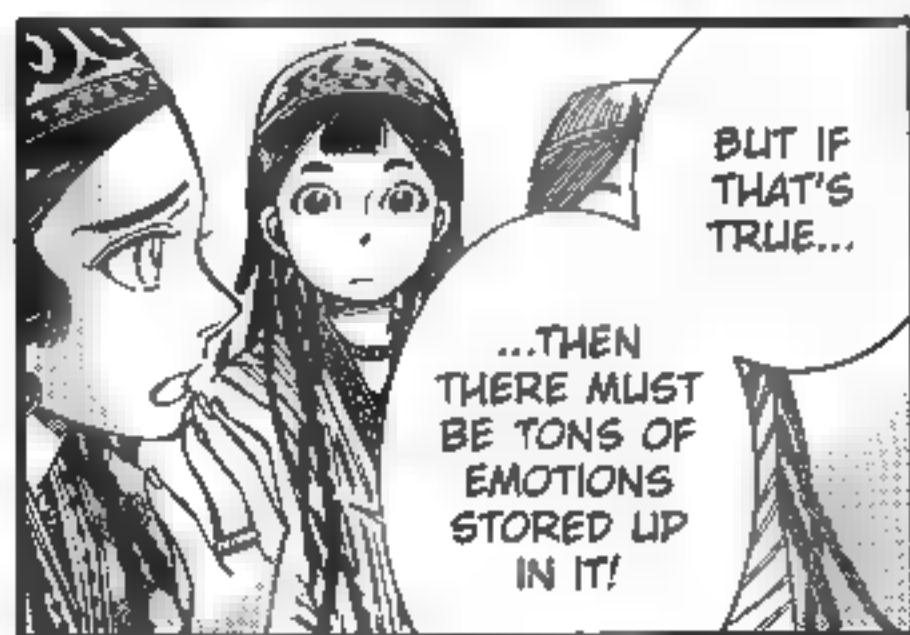
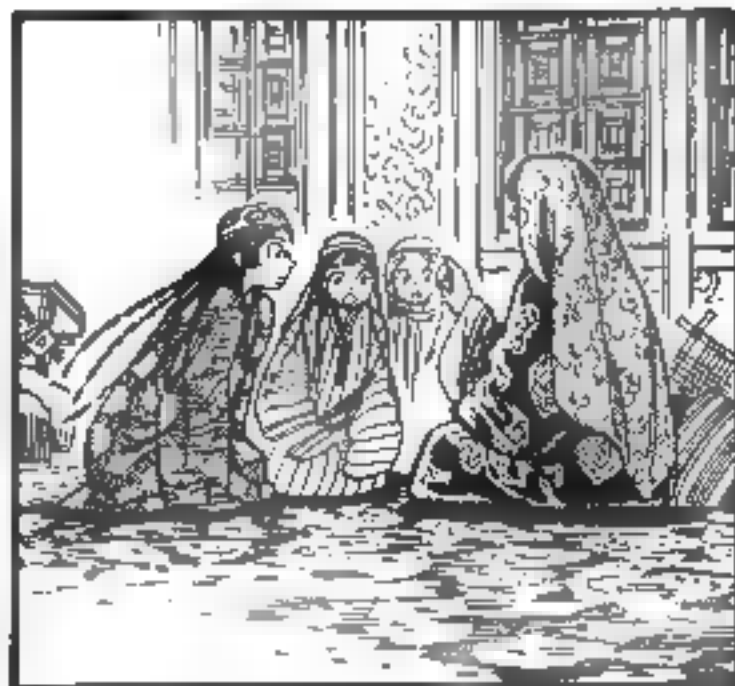


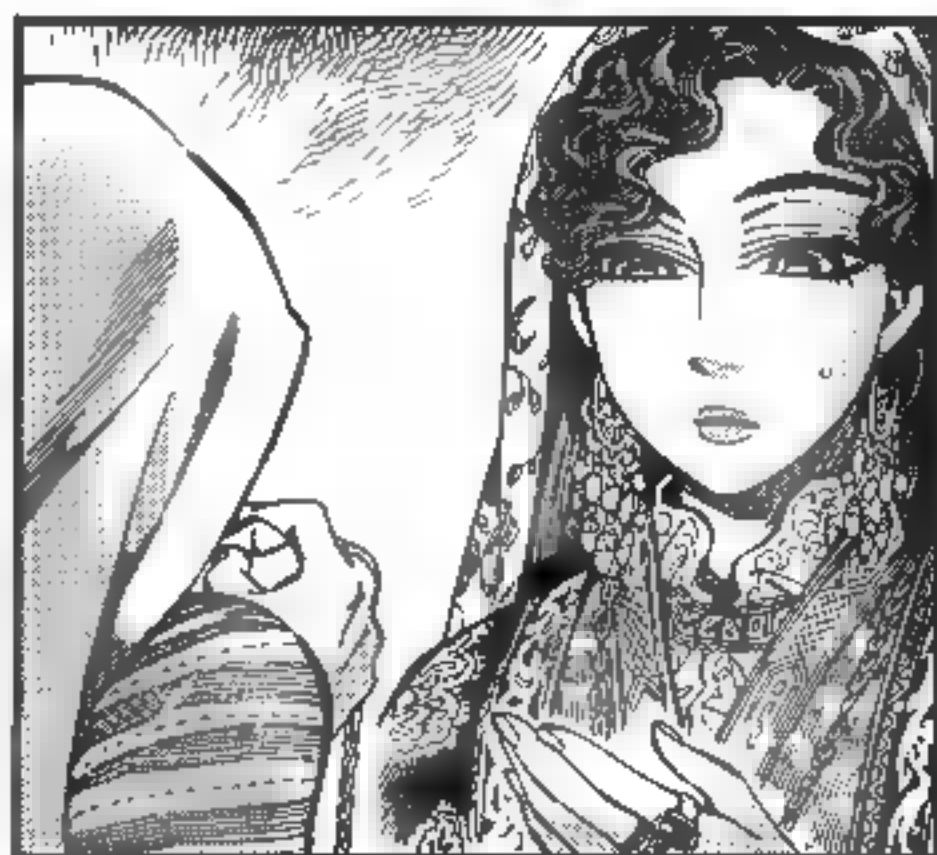
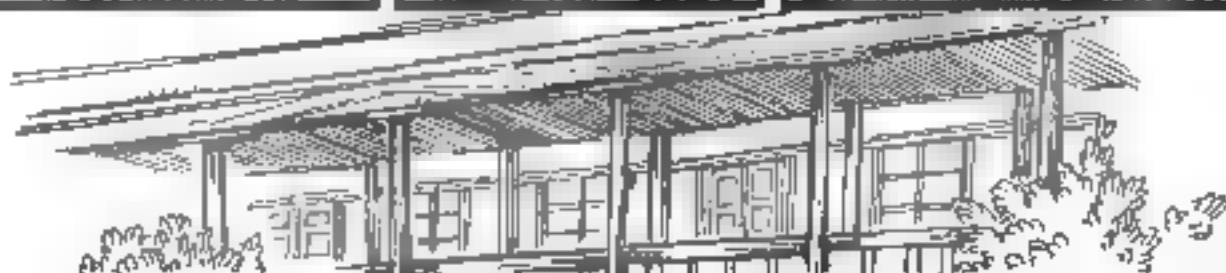




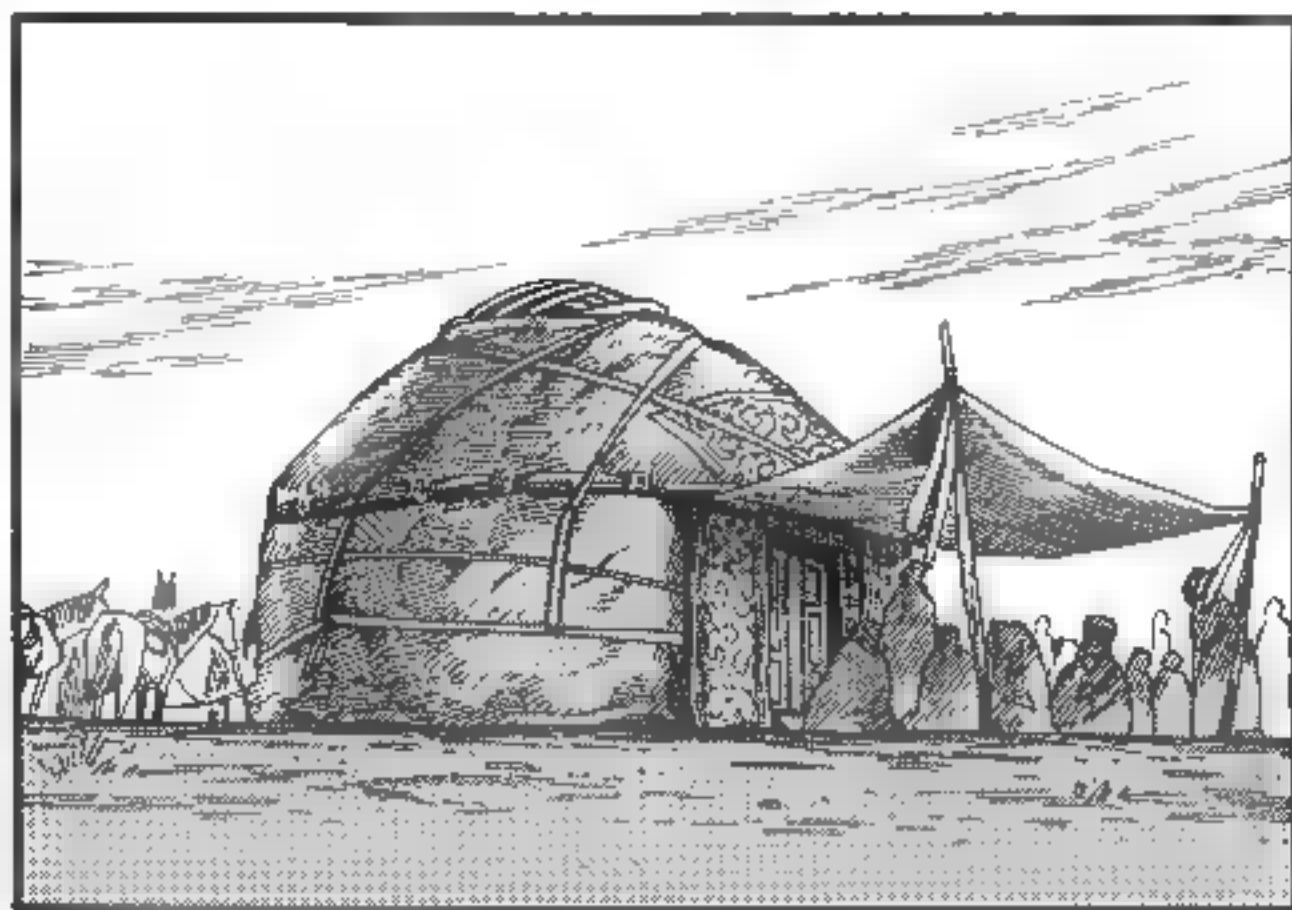
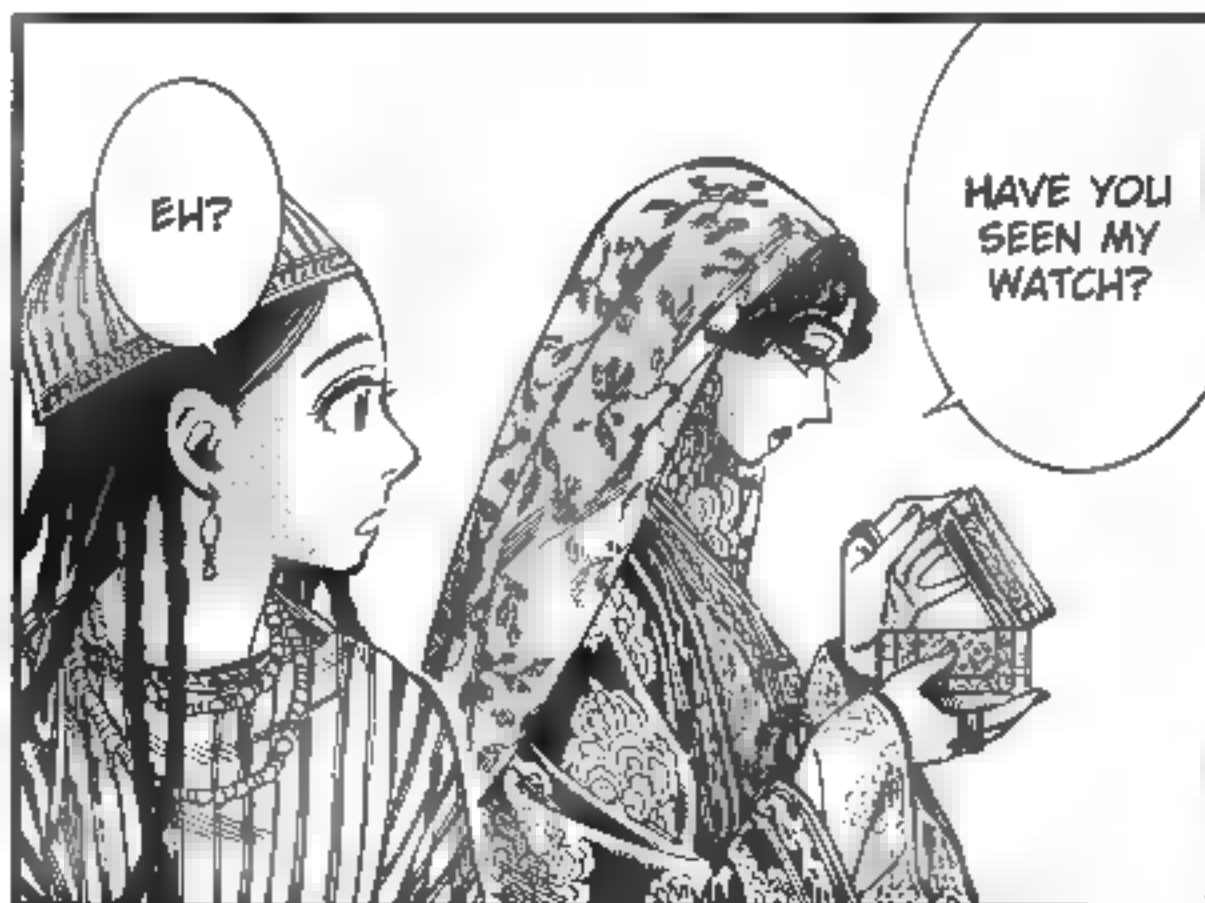


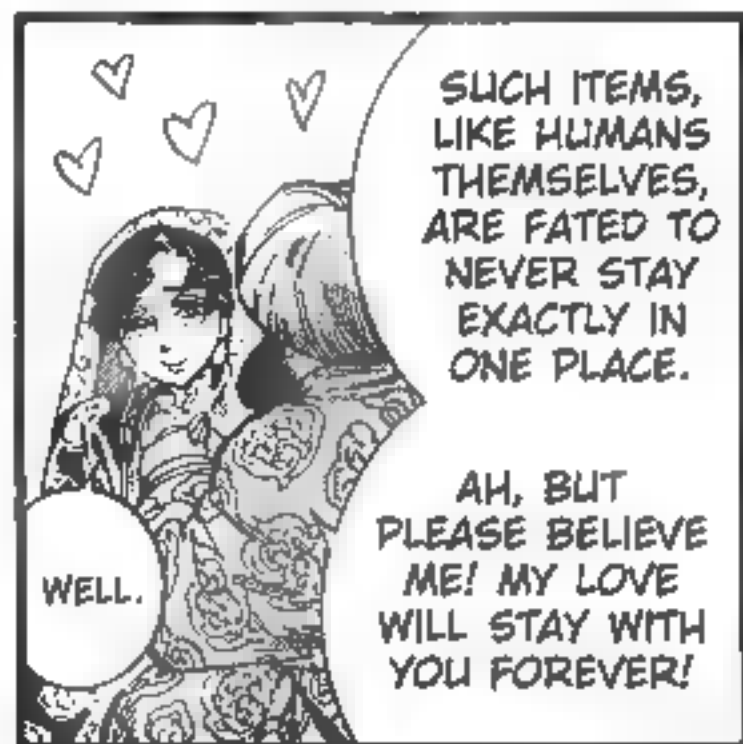


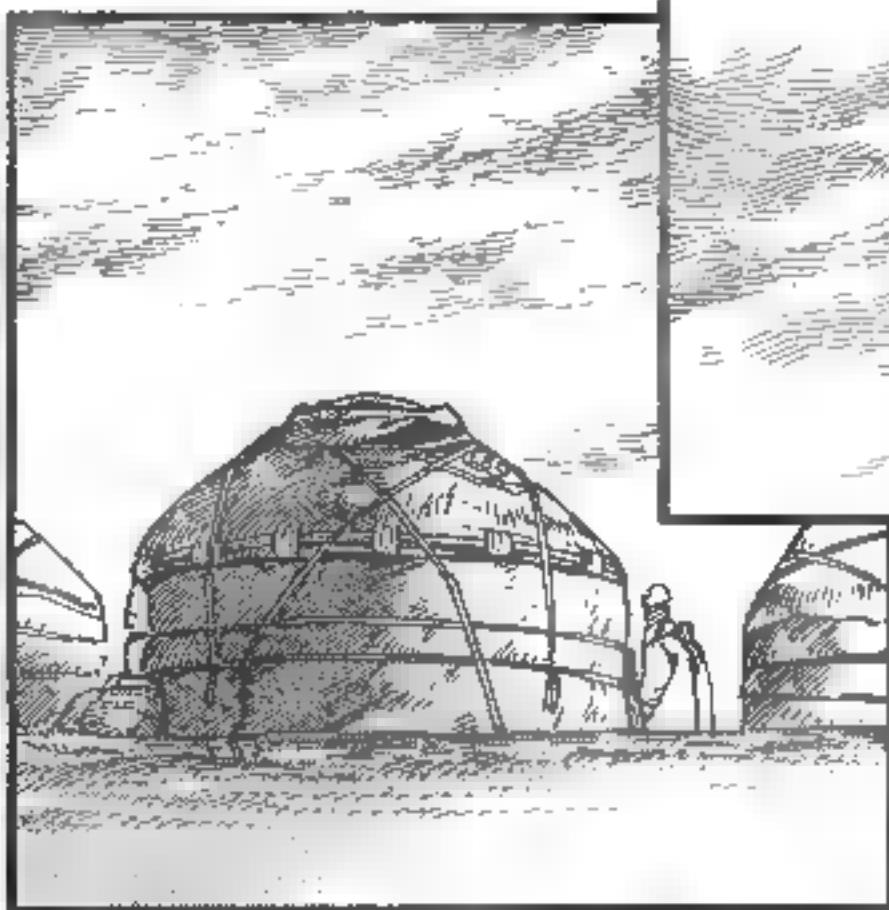






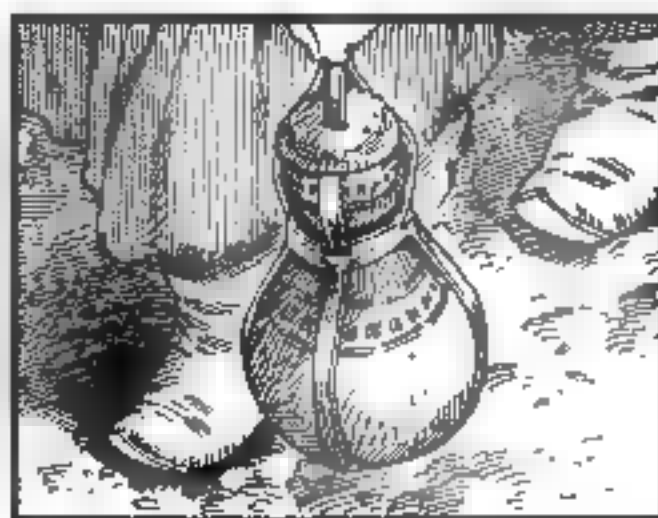
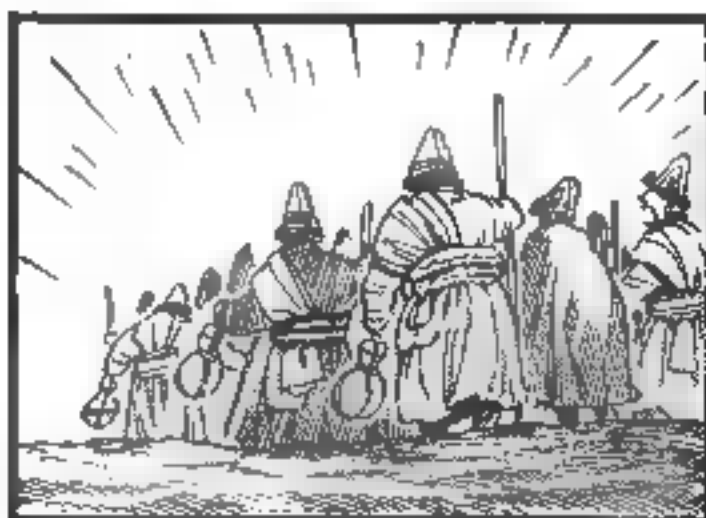
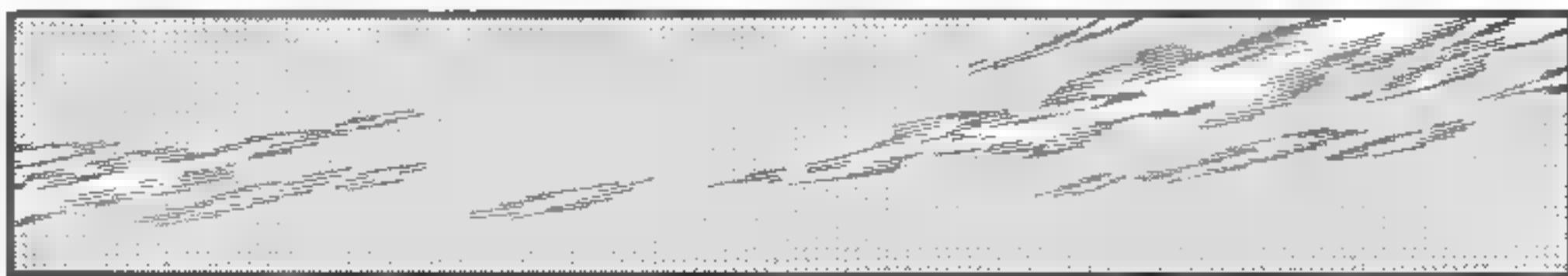








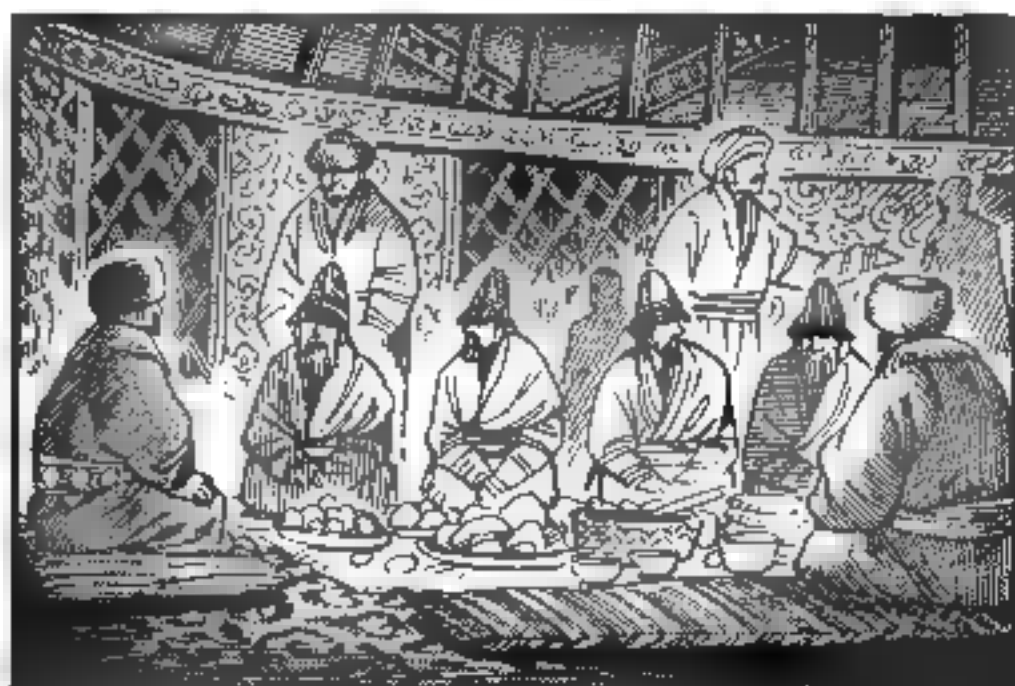
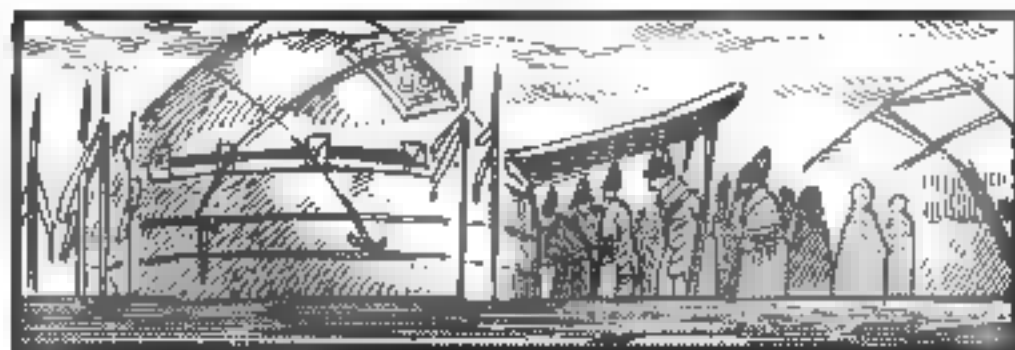






YOU
WARM MY
HEART!

LOOK
AT THIS. A
WONDERFUL
PARTY JUST
AS WE
ARRIVE?



PLEASE
CELEBRATE
WITH US!

I WAS JUST
PLANNING A
FEAST!



WELL,
YOU CAME
AT THE
PERFECT
TIME!



WELL,
WELL!

CONGRAT-
ULATIONS!

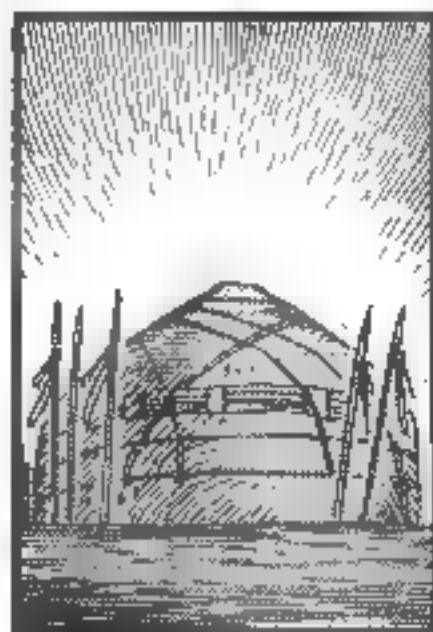
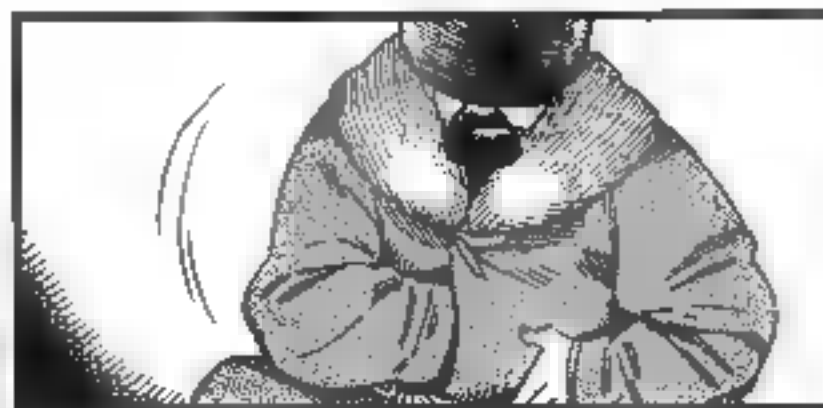


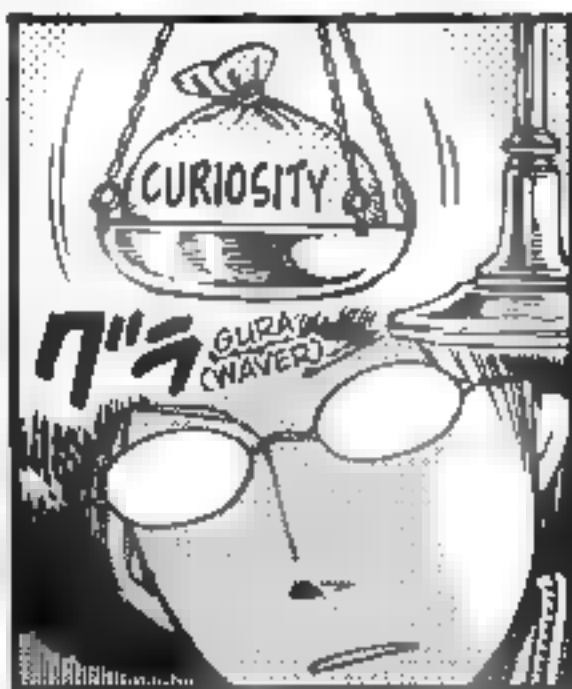
THIS IS TO
CELEBRATE
MY
BECOMING
CLAN
HEAD.

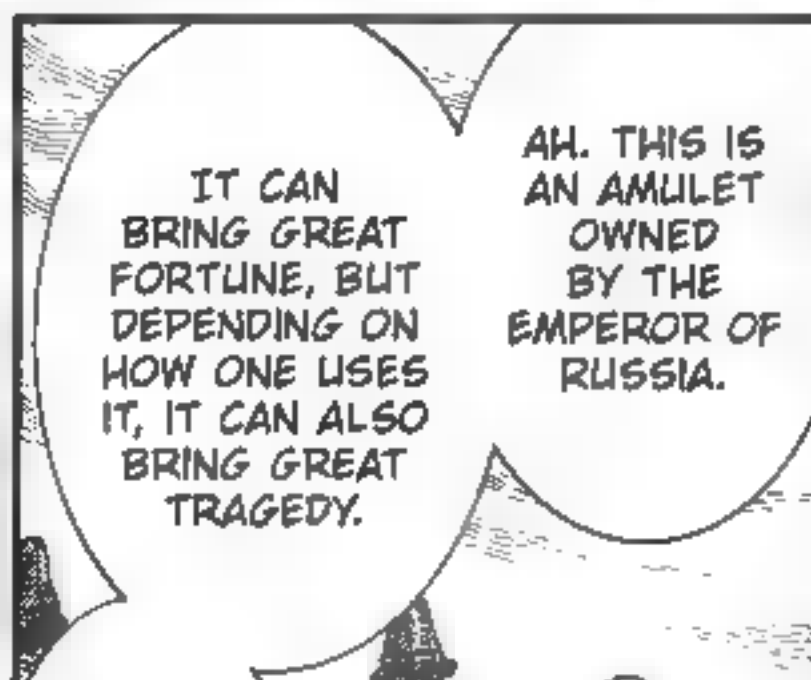
I DROVE MY
UNCLES TO
A COMPLETE
ROUT.



WHAT
ARE WE
CELEBRAT-
ING?

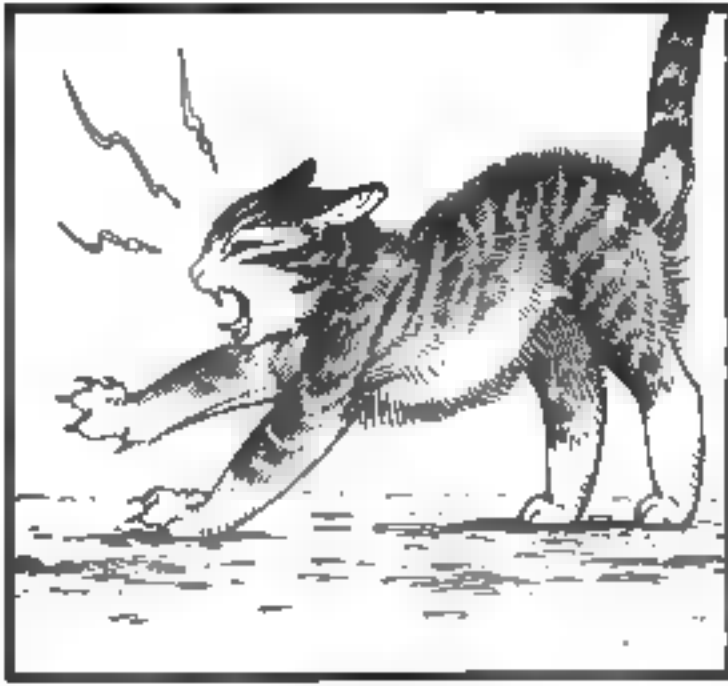


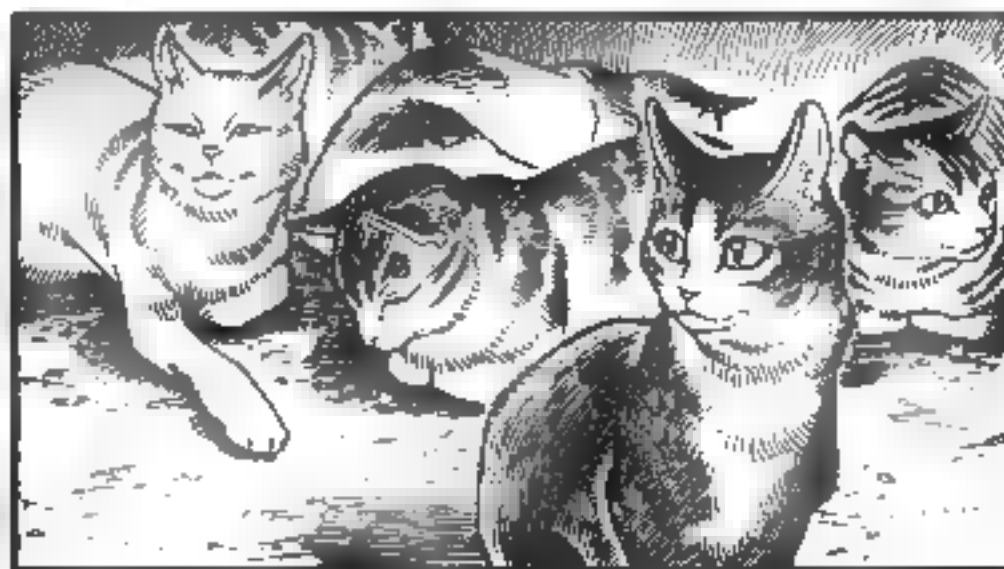
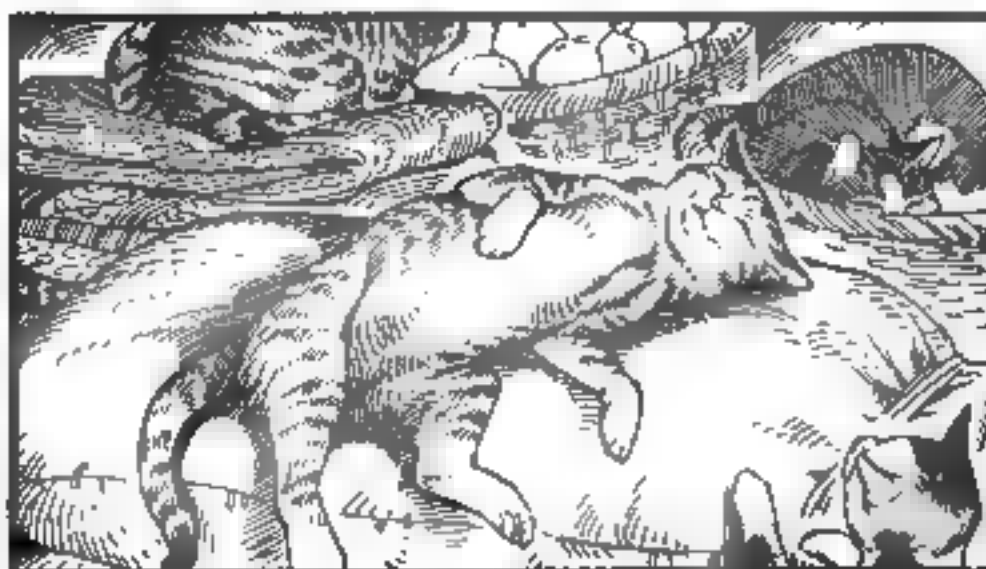






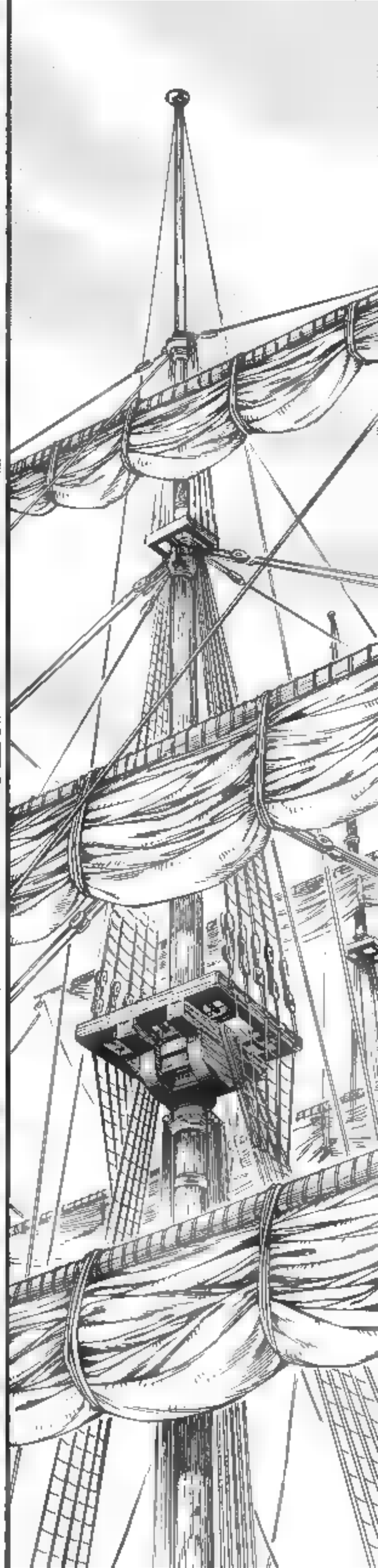






CHAPTER 77
ANTALYA







BUT
IT'S
TRUE.

THIS
IS THE
MEDITER-
RANEAN.

IT
CONNECTS
THESE
CITIES.



I
SUPPOSE
SO.

ONCE WE
REPLENISH
OUR SUPPLIES
OF CAMEL
FEED AND
WATER, LET'S
MOVE OUT
AGAIN.



SO
WE'RE
HERE FOR
A FEW
DAYS...



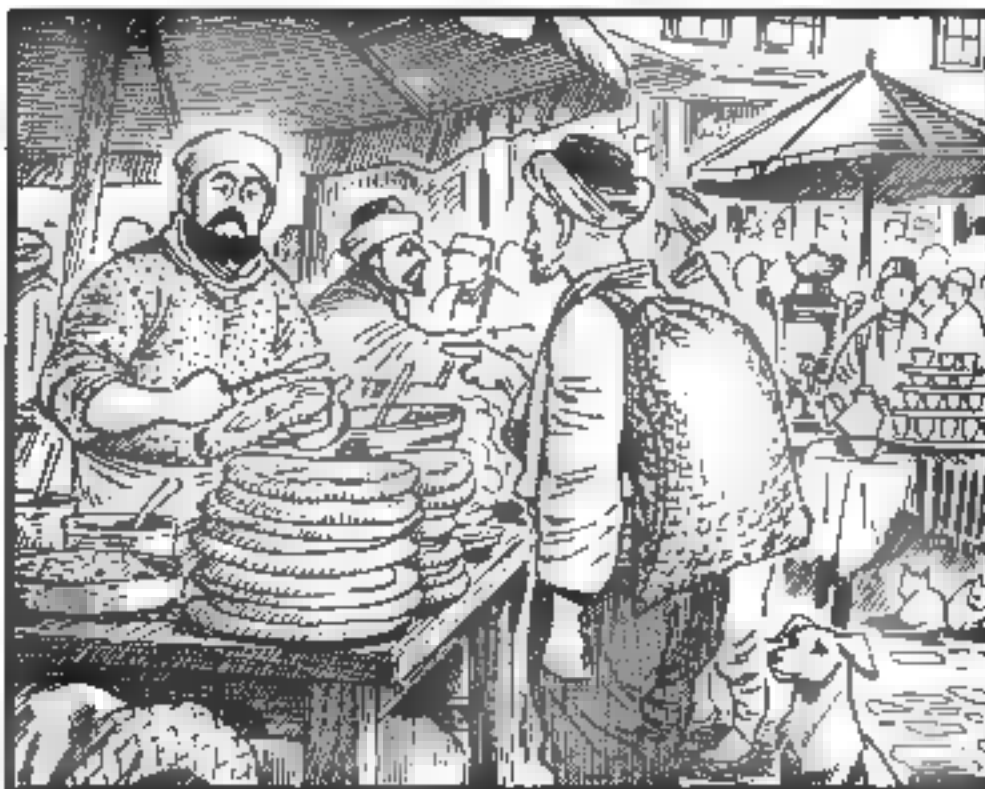
WHICH
MEANS
THAT WE
CAN'T
LEAVE
TOMOR-
ROW.

SO
THE DAY
AFTER, OR
THE DAY
AFTER
THAT.



BUT
WE CAN'T
STAY HERE
LONG.

ANTALYA
IS A TOWN
WITH JUST
ABOUT
EVERY-
THING.







AH!

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?



...TRADE HAS THRIVED ALONG THE MEDITERRANEAN.

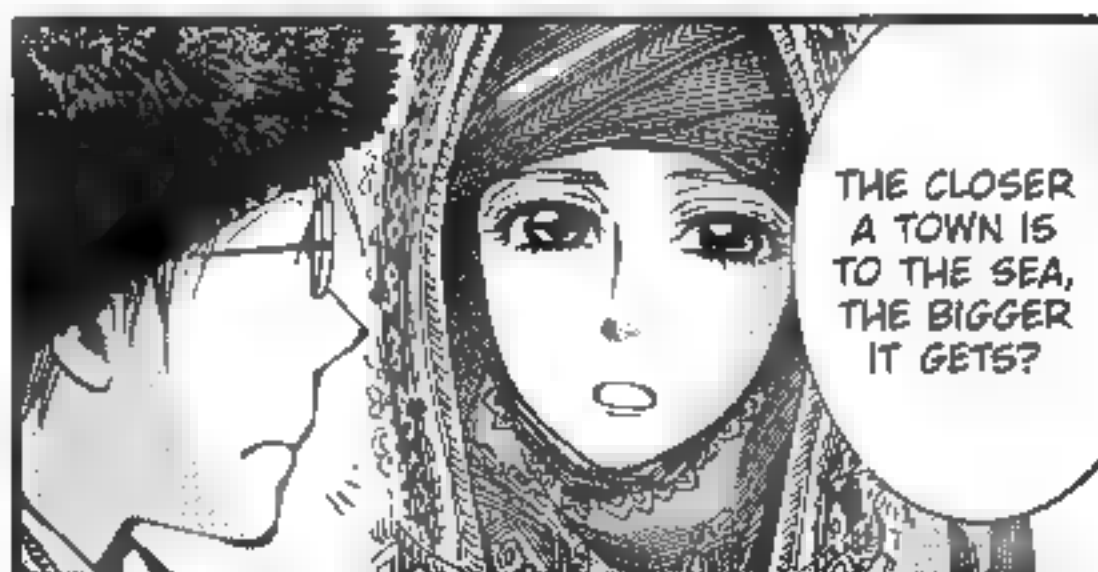
EVER SINCE THE ROMAN EMPIRE...

...NO, EVEN BEFORE THAT...



YOU CAN BUILD BY A RIVER...

...BUT TOWNS BUILT BY THE SEA CAN GROW LARGER MORE QUICKLY THAN INLAND TOWNS.



THE CLOSER A TOWN IS TO THE SEA, THE BIGGER IT GETS?



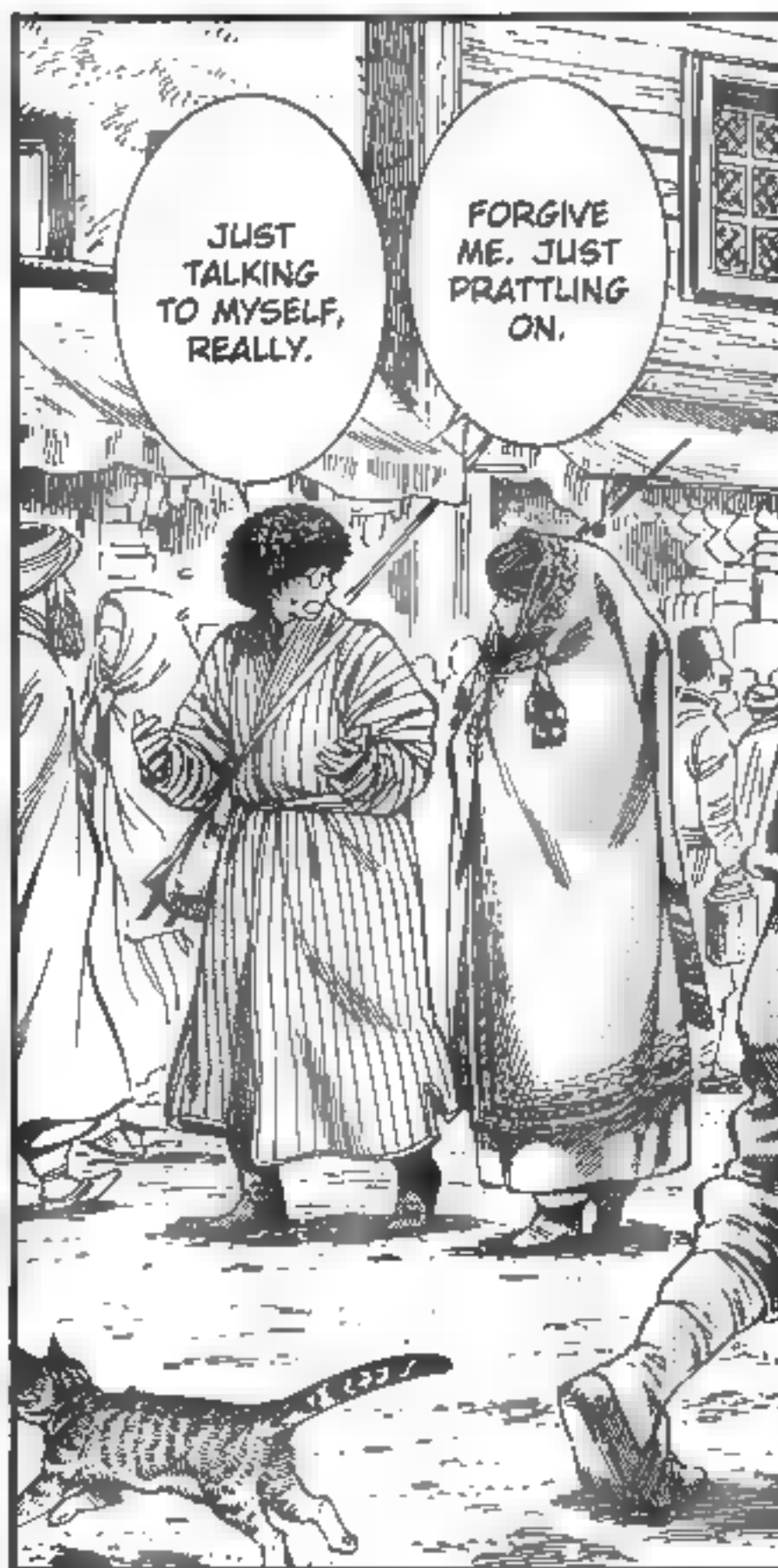
BUT ON WATER, EVEN LARGE LOADS OF HEAVY GOODS CAN BE TRANSPORTED AS LONG AS THE VESSEL REMAINS AFLOAT.



SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

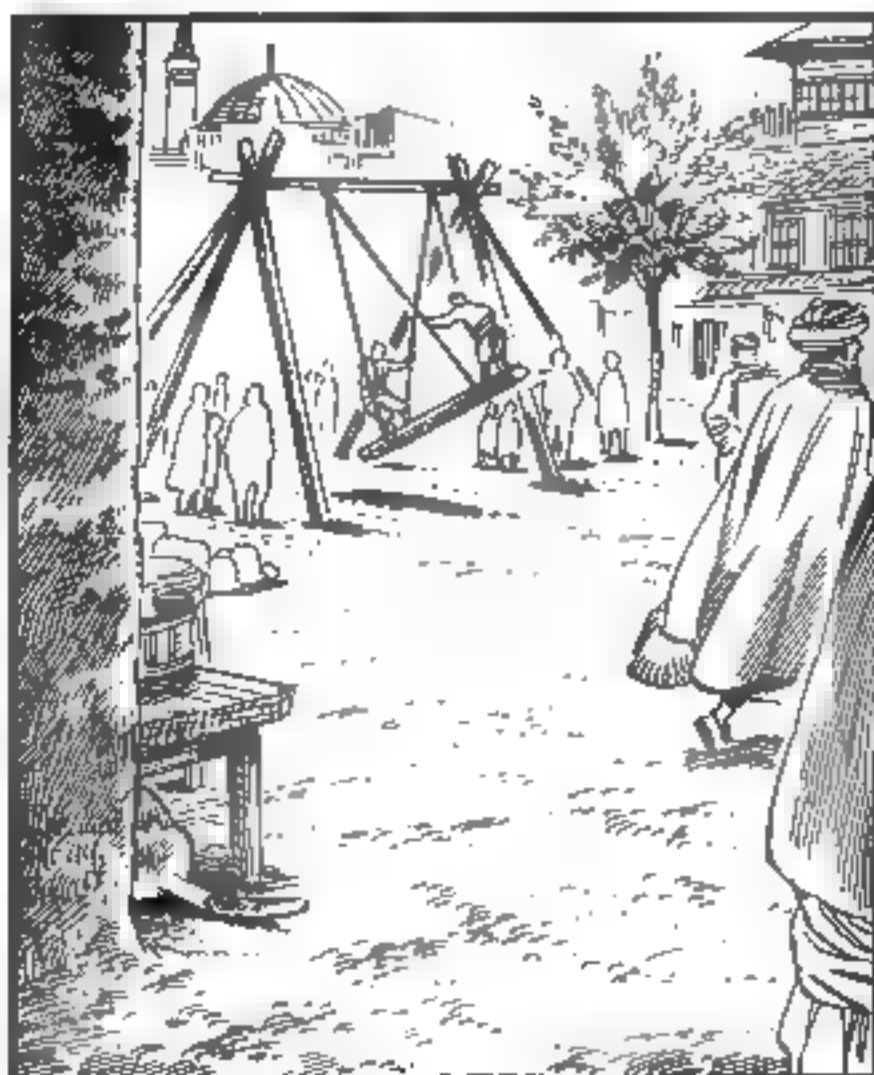
ON LAND, WHEN YOU WANT TO SELL YOUR GOODS...

...YOU NEED A GREAT NUMBER OF PEOPLE AND CAMELS ON THE ROADS.



JUST TALKING TO MYSELF, REALLY.

FORGIVE ME. JUST PRATTLING ON.





IT'S A
SWING!!



THERE'S
A SWING
OVER
THERE!

AH.

SO
THERE
IS.

THAT'S A
SWING?



NOTH-
ING...

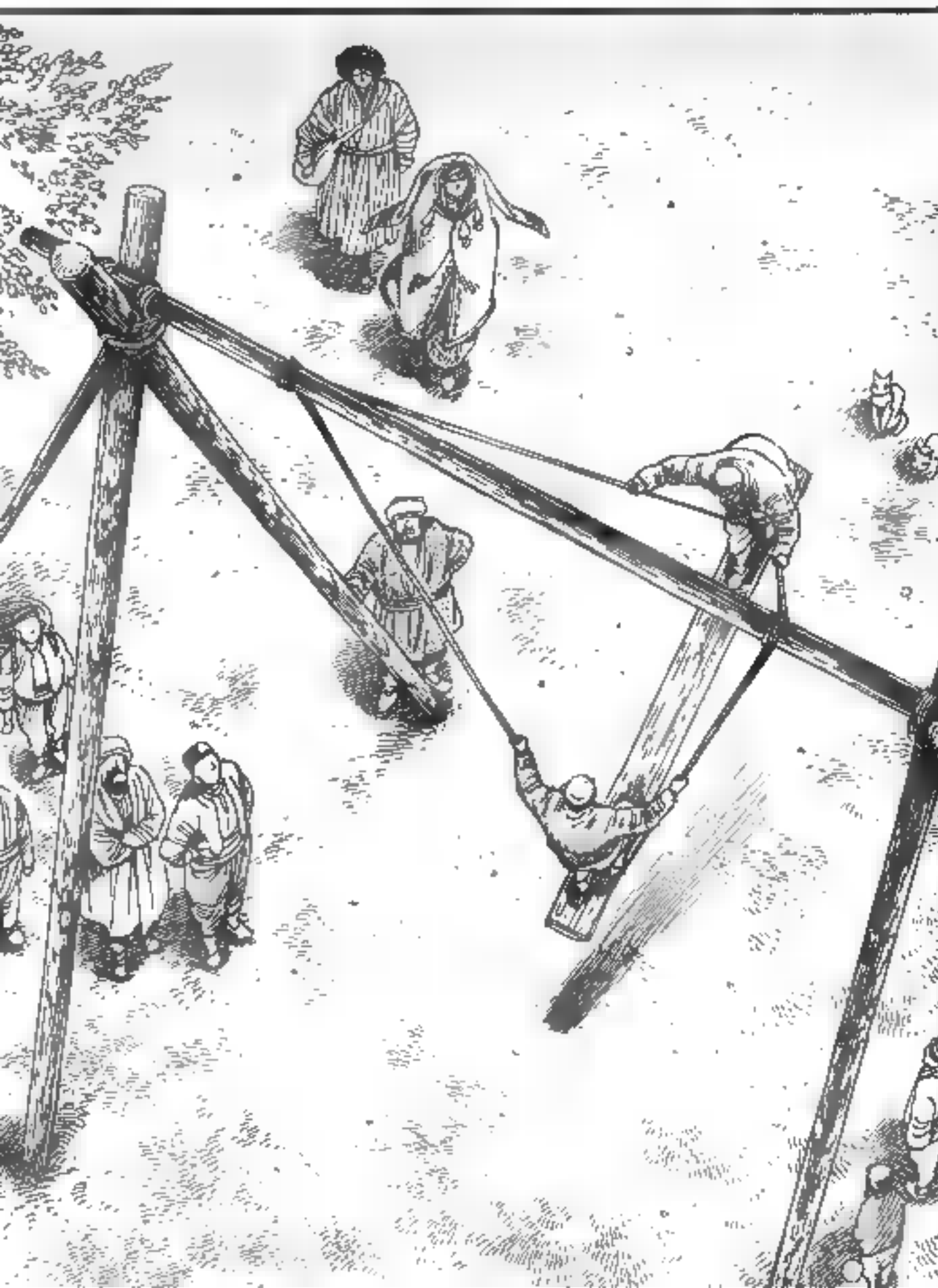
IT'S
JUST...



YOUR
VOICE
JUST
NOW

EH?

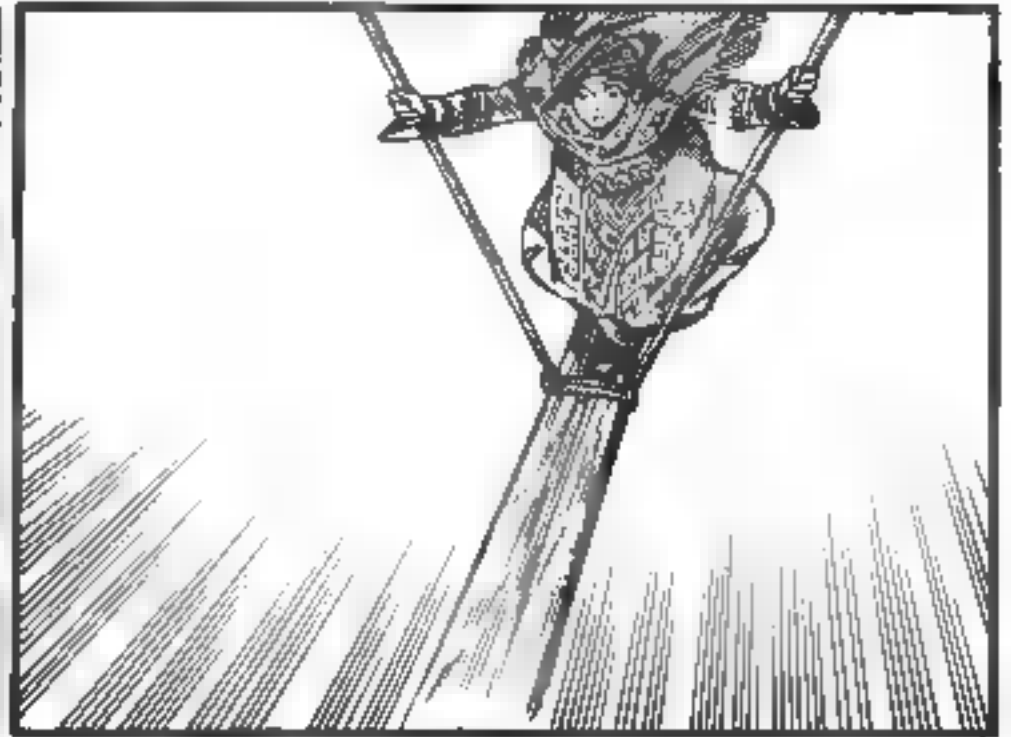
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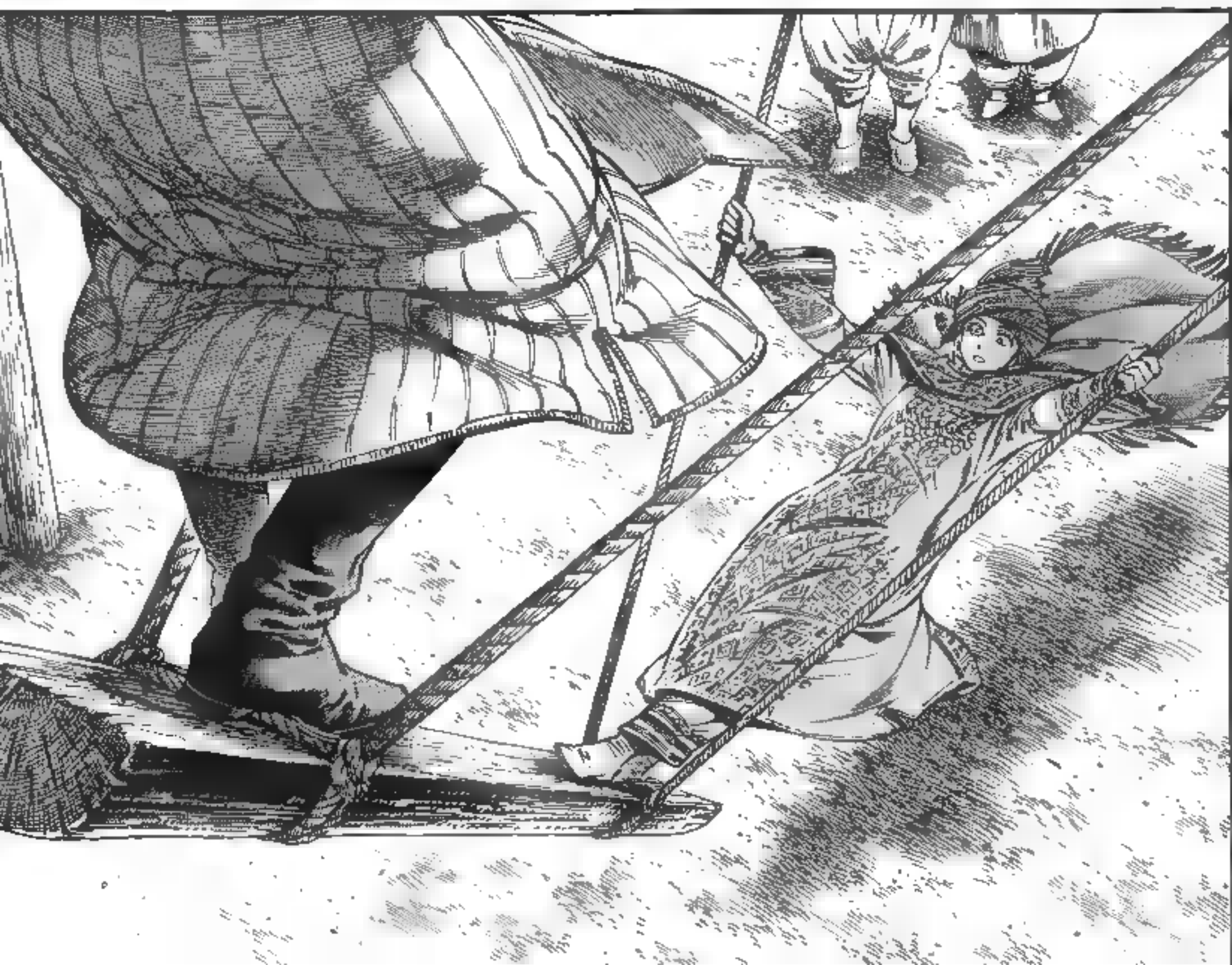






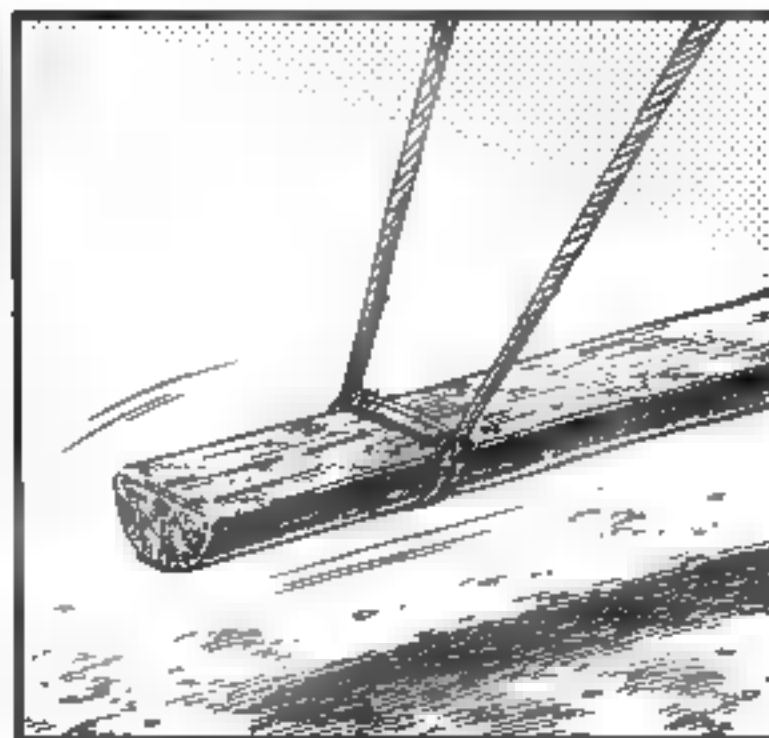






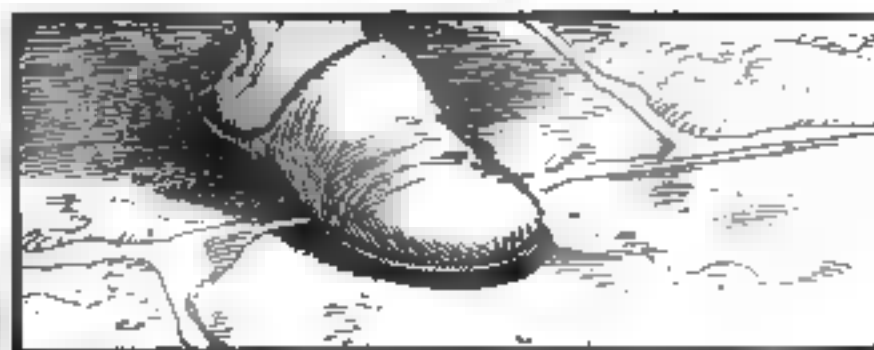














SHE THINKS
YOUR WIFE'S
CLOTHES
ARE VERY
BEAUTIFUL.

WOULD
YOU
PLEASE
SELL IT?

WE HAVE
MONEY TO
BUY IT.



SHE IS
GATHERING
UP BEAUTIFUL
THINGS AS WE
TRAVEL...

...TO BRING
BACK AS
GIFTS.



PLEASE
TELL
THEM...

SELLING
IT WOULD
BE A
PROBLEM.

...THAT
THESE
ARE THE
ONLY
CLOTHES
I HAVE
RIGHT
NOW.



...THAT
WOULD
PUT US IN
A SPOT...

WELL,
BUT...



HOW
MUCH
WOULD
SHE
PAY?



...ARE
YOU
SURE
ABOUT
THIS?

YES.



HOWEVER,
WERE YOU TO
BE ABLE TO
OBTAIN OTHER
CLOTHING...

...THEN I
WOULD BE
GLAD TO
SELL MINE.



ARE YOU SURE THIS IS ALL RIGHT?



YOU'VE MADE HER VERY HAPPY.

IF YOU DO NOT MIND, PLEASE LET US KNOW WHERE YOU ARE STAYING.

WE WILL NOW SEARCH FOR A SUITABLE REPLACEMENT.



BUT AFTER ALL YOUR WORK...

...YOU KNOW ...

...THE EMBROIDERING AND SO FORTH...



WE WILL NEED THE MONEY FOR THE TRIP.

IF THERE IS SOMEONE WHO IS WILLING TO BUY THEM, THEN I COUNT MYSELF LUCKY.



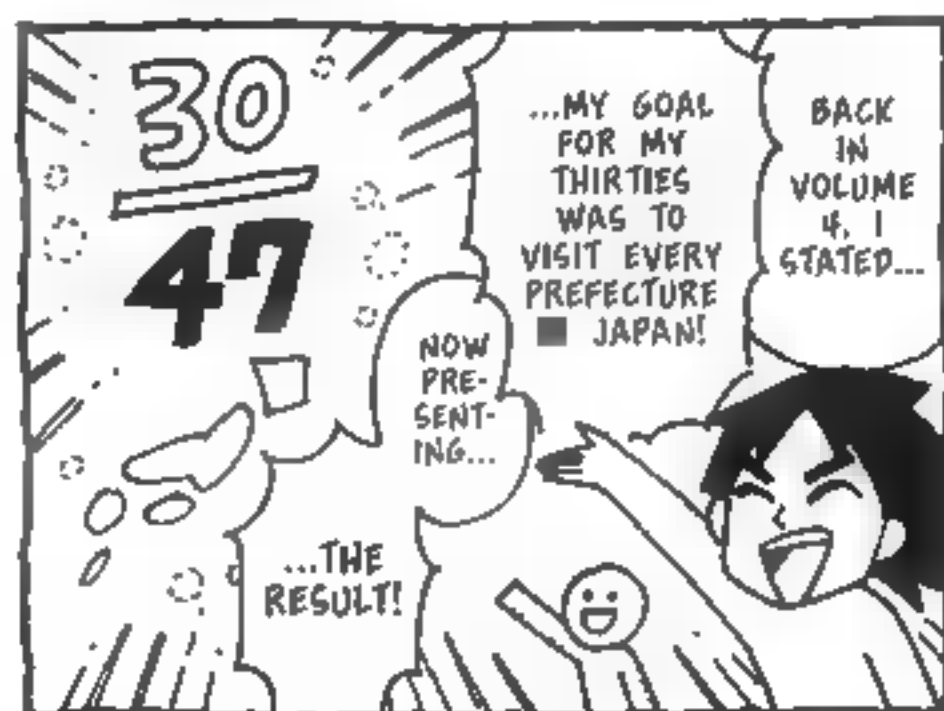
AFTERWORD



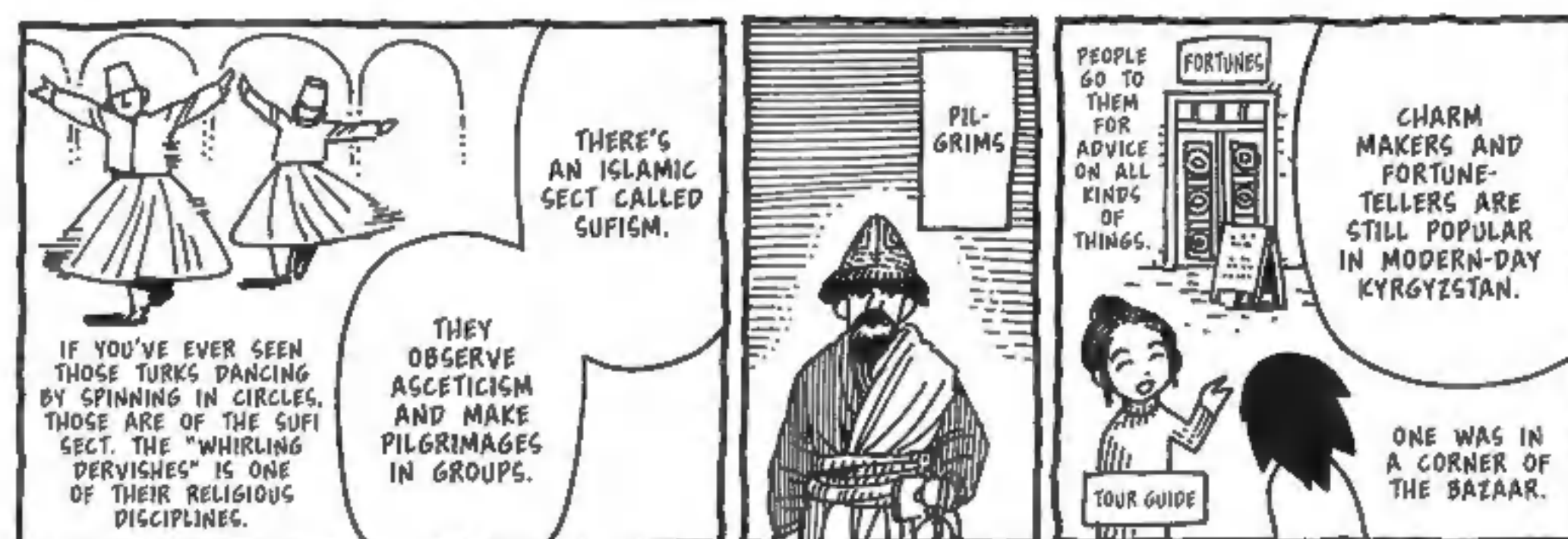
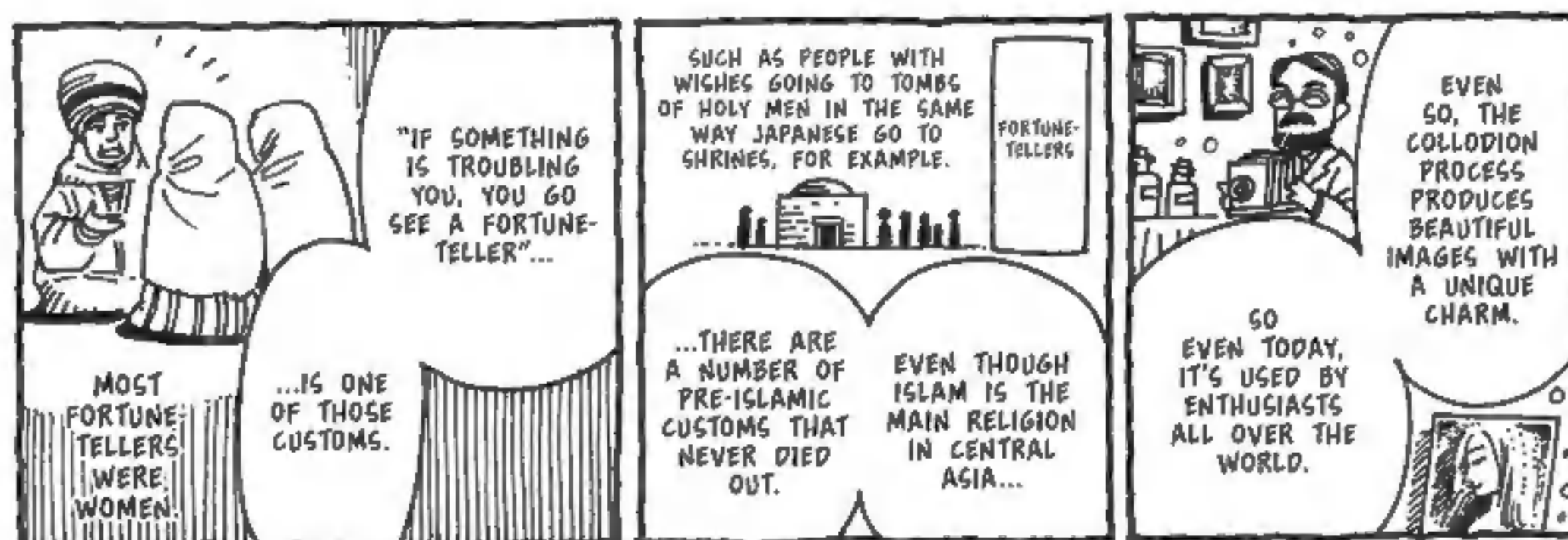
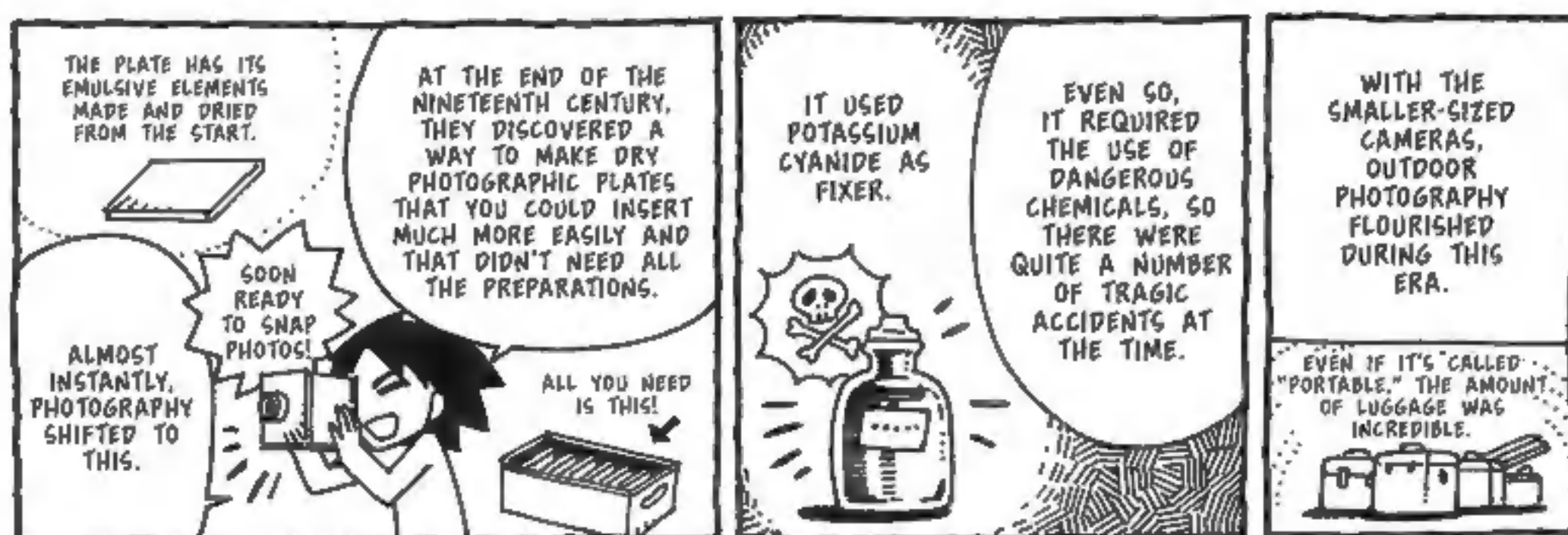
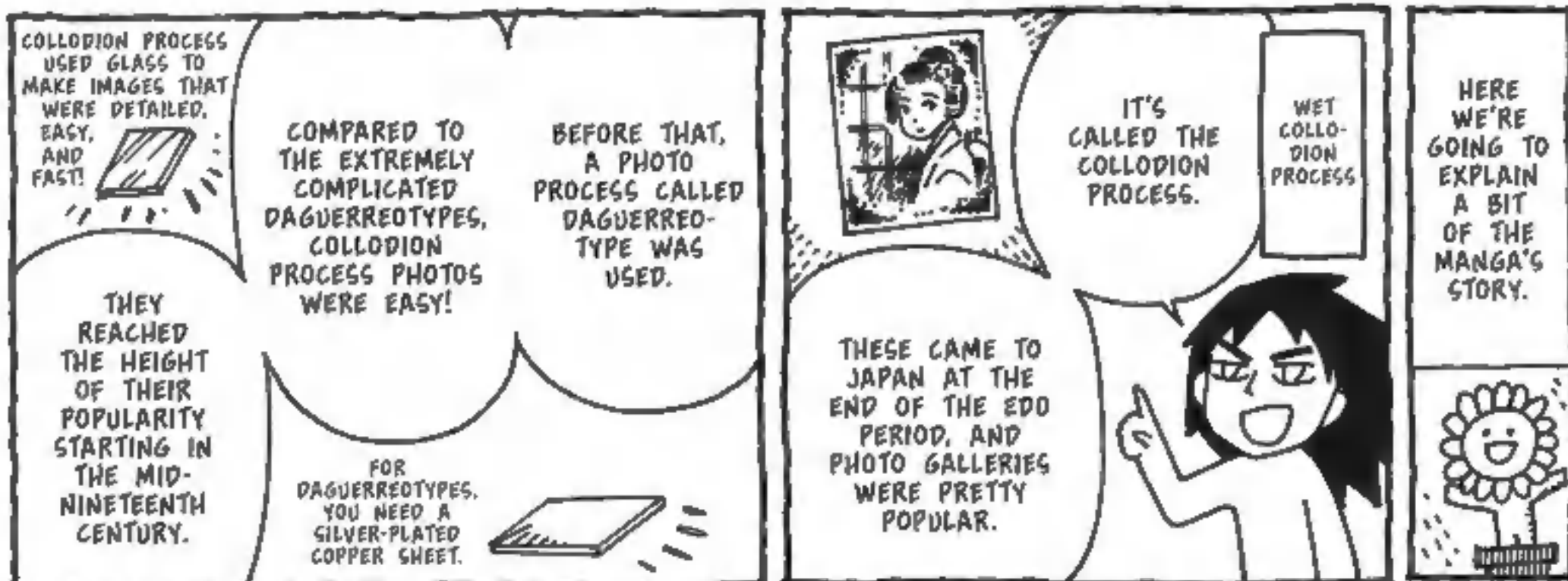


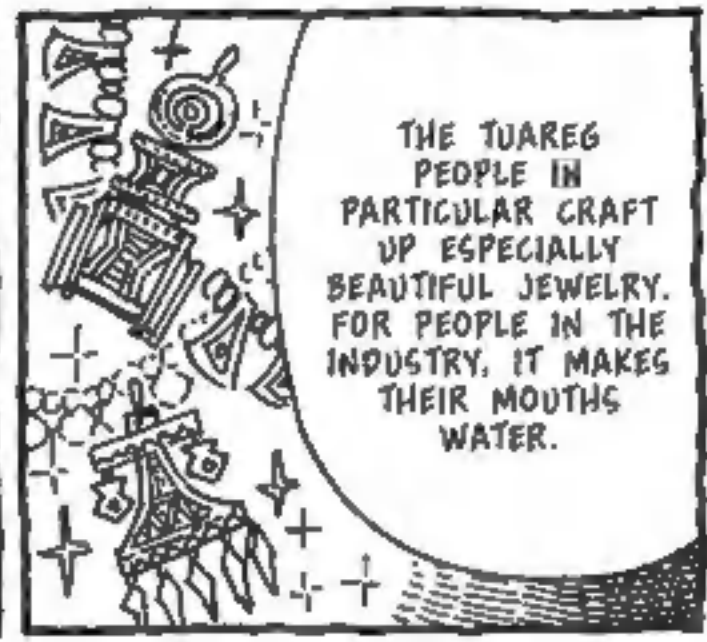
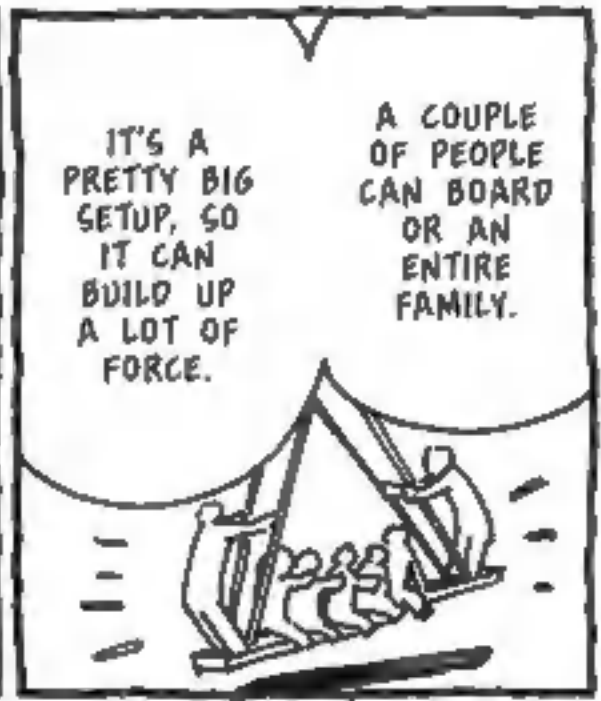
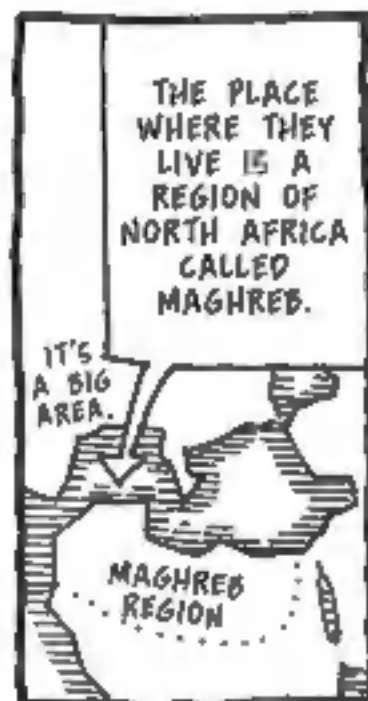
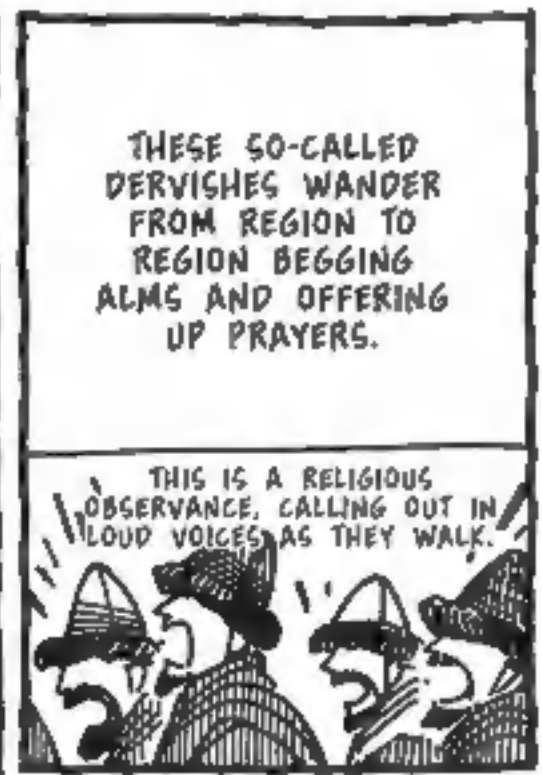
AFTERWORD TAN-TA-DAH MANGA!!

LOVE IS A GENTLE FLOWER IN THE OPEN FIELD!

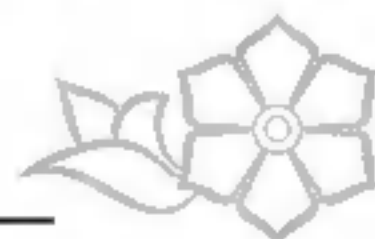


NOTE: THE AFTERWORD TITLE COMES FROM A SONG WHOSE TUNE IS TAKEN FROM THE OPERETTA BOCCACCIO BY AUSTRIAN COMPOSER FRANZ VON SUPPÉ. IN THE TAISHO ERA (1912-1926) THE OPERETTA CAME TO ASAKUSA AND JAPANESE LYRICS WERE ADDED TO THE TUNE OF THE FIRST ARIA, BECOMING "LOVE IS A GENTLE FLOWER IN AN OPEN FIELD." THE THRUST OF THE SONG IS THAT LOVE IS LIKE A WILD FLOWER UNSULLIED IN THE SUMMER SUN. UNAFFECTED BY THE MISTS AND WINTER WEATHER OF DOUBT. IT GOES ON TO COMPARE THE PASSIONS OF LOVE TO NATURE.





A BRIDE'S STORY ⑪



KAORU MORI

TRANSLATION: WILLIAM FLANAGAN

LETTERING: ABIGAIL BLACKMAN

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